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Cambria Freeman.

JAS. C. HASSON, Editor and Publisher.

"HE IS A FREEMAN WHOM THE TRUTH MAKES FREE, AND ALL ARE SLAVES BESIDE."

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THE COT AT THE FOOT OF THE HILL.

There's a mansion of stone at the top of the hill,
With beautiful gardens around,
Where rarest exotics, in gorgeous dyes,
Thro' all the long winter abound.
Its floors are inlaid with mosaic designs,
Its windows are smothered in lace,
And treasures of art, in marble or oil,
Fill every available space.

At the foot of the hill is a dear little cot
Embowered in clambering vines;
Round doorway and windows the sweet climbing rose
With the fragrant Madeira entwines.
The sunbeams paint pictures all over the walls,
And in front is my small garden-plot,
Where the old-fashioned flowers, in bright flaming tints,
Shed perfume around the dear spot.

In the beautiful house at the top of the hill
Lives a lady so stately and fair;
In satins and velvets her figure is robed;
In the braids of her soft dusky hair
Gleam radiant jewels that shimmer and flash
Like the star-points ashine in the sky;
And yet—her red lips seem just ready to part
And give vent to a heart-broken sigh.

At the foot of the hill in my little white cot,
The hours pass swiftly away;
With my everyday duties and round of small cares,
I am happy and busy all day.
In my pretty pink dress and with unadorned hair,
At even a walk to the stile,
To wait for my husband returning from work,
And to give him a kiss and a smile.

The lady who lives at the top of the hill
Has her carriage, her pony to ride;
And often she drives past the door of my cot,
But her husband is ne'er by her side.
And often she meets us, my husband and me,
Going home thro' the long shady lane,
And her beautiful features, so haughty and cold,
Contract in a spasm of pain.

Ah, the house at the top of the hill is a gem!
But it cannot compare with my cot.
All the jewels and wealth of the lady up there
Could not tempt me to change with her lot.
We have love in our cot that, in sunshine or gloom,
Our hearts with pure happiness fills.
Oh, no! I'd not give for the wealth of the world,
My cot at the foot of the hill.

—[English Paper.

ALABAMA MOONSHINERS.

Scenes in an Illicit Still—A Child's Pitiful Situation.

The visit to an illicit still was under an oath characteristic of the mountaineer, which was sacred and binding.

It was about two miles in the mountains, away from any settlement. The distance was travelled on the back of a mountain mule.

After following a narrow, beaten track through bushes, over rocks, down hillsides, across ravines and through mountain passes, a point of a precipice was reached.

My companions pointed to the depths below and told me to watch a certain spot. A blue curl of smoke arose, which was from the still we were going to visit.

Then down the narrow mountain side we rode, guided by the sensible animal. If a slip of his foot was made, eternity would have been our doom.

Soon a point was reached about 200 yards from the still. One of my companions took from his pocket a whistle, made of a piece of reed, and gave two shrill whistles, which were answered.

The animals were tied, and one of the men said to the other, "Jim, his peepers are too good; I guess we had better cover them."

With these words the two men proceeded to bind a cloth over my eyes. After walking around and about, a cave was entered.

When the door was thrown back, my eyes were freed and a scene of interest was pictured.

The room was a cavern dug out of a coal deposit, about twenty by sixteen feet, in which were arranged the worms and barrels, with piles of corn and dried fruit. Hanging about were guns and pistols, near which was a slide made to open and close at a moment's notice.

The interior was suggestive of the vile nature of the mountains. The men inside were dressed in clothing of coarse material made at home. Their arms were bared and grizzly with hair. Their faces caused them to have the appearance of demons.

In a corner of the cavern was a man busily engaged in pouring will-cat whisky in a funnel, which was conveyed off through a pipe made of mountain cane.

"Where does that go to?" was asked.

"You can't know all, stranger; what that runs to you nor any other man will know, but it is taken off you can bet on it."

Behind a tub of sour mash was a little ragged nine-year-old child, who had a stick stirring the contents. The little thing was covered with dirt, and half clad in coarse homespun.

"Chunk it up, Mag, and come hereand see the stranger."

The child, half frightened and cowered, approached me, but her timidity overcame her and she stopped.

"Come here, you little hell cat and sing," was spoken by one of the men.

The child began to sing in a voice as plaintive as a dove, and before she had finished the tears were streaming down her cheeks.

"What is the child's name?" was asked.

"We call her Mag, for short. That child has a history as long as your arm, but she will never tell it. She knows she will get the strap."

Poor little pitiful object to be in the hands of such demons. But how did she get there?

Her dark blue, childish eyes looked up, moistened with tears, and pleaded to be spared the lash. Her story was a strange one, and was calculated to touch the chords of a hardened heart.

One cold morning six years before, a man was seen slowly riding along the mountain road with a child in front on the saddle. The snow was falling, and he tenderly clasped her wraps around her.

Up the mountain higher were two men who had been introduced, and they were gazing at the sight below.

"Take the glass and see if you are sure he is a spy."

Soon the sharp ring of a rifle was heard and the traveller dropped lifeless from his saddle, and the child was taken to the cave of the moonshiners. The child has been there since.

The duty of the child is to mix sour mash and keep her mouth closed, which she performs faithfully.

The question was asked of these men: "Are you not afraid of the revenue men and will they not get you?"

"Stranger, we are not afraid of heaven or hell, much less anything on two legs. We are trying to make an honest living, and the man who tries to stop us dies—that's all. The law has got to take the same chances we do."—[Huntsville Correspondence of Atlanta Constitution.

THE LOGIC OF EVENTS.

"Well, well," said Mrs. Catson, putting aside a newspaper and turning to her husband, "a pair of ear-rings caused the Burmese war. I never heard of anything so strange."

"Oh," said Mr. Catson, "I have heard of stranger things."

"Nonsense."

"Well, I have, and I'll give you an example. One night, in Boston, a young man, meeting an acquaintance, said, 'Come, let's have a drink.' I was never in Boston, but that remark brought about our marriage."

"Why, George," exclaimed Mrs. Catson, "you are foolish. Neither of us were ever in Boston. You must be losing your mind."

"Tell you what I'll do: I promised to get you a new cloak, didn't I?"

"Yes."

"Well, now I'll bet you the cloak that I can prove my assertion."

"All right."

"If I succeed you don't get the cloak."

"I understand."

"Well, one night in Boston, about ten years ago, a young man, meeting a friend, asked him to come and have a drink. The friend, a drug clerk, did so. He took several drinks and got drunk. That settled it."

"Settled what?"

"The fact of our marriage."

"How can you be so foolish?"

"Never mind, I'll explain. The drug clerk got drunk and went to the store. Shortly afterward, a servant girl entered and handed him a prescription. In putting it up, he used morphine instead of quinine. The girl went away, and delivered the medicine to Mrs. Potter, who took it and died."

"Oh, what's the use of prolonging this foolishness?"

"Hold on. The death of that woman drew you and me closer together than we ever were before."

"We were not acquainted with each other ten years ago."

"That is very true, but wait. Mr. Potter, the lady's husband, was almost crazed by grief. He could stay in Boston no longer, so he came down to Kentucky and, after awhile, went into business. Don't see any light yet, do you?"

"Oh, hush."

"Wait a minute. He had not been in business long until I met him. He took a fancy to me, and gave me employment. After I had been with him several years, he sent me to Arkansaw. I had been in this state but a short time until I met you.

"Summary: If the friend had not asked the drug clerk to drink on one certain occasion he would not have got drunk, if he hadn't been drunk he would not have made a mistake in filling the prescription, and had he not made a mistake, Mrs. Potter would not have been killed, and had she not died, Potter would not have left Boston, and had he not left that city I should not have met him, and had I not gone into business with him—"

"Oh, for goodness sake, hush. You are enough to drive anybody crazy."

She arose and left the room. Her husband mused:

"I'll make her another bet. I'll bet she doesn't get that cloak. I have always thought that the logic of events failed to meet with proper appreciation in this country."—[Arkansaw Traveler.

Mock Auction of Cigars.

That aged system of swindling by means of mock auction sales of cigars is still carried on successfully in New York.

The other day a well-known Southern man entered a little place where cigars were being sold by an auctioneer. There were apparently three or four men who were bidding briskly, and as the cigars seemed to be fine, the stranger competed for a choice box, which was knocked down to him for $5. Immediately afterward the sale was declared closed.

The Southerner stepped up to the counter, where apparent customers were receiving parcels, and asked for his box, at the same time tendering a $5 bill.

"You owe $60," said the cashier severely.

"For what?"

"These cigars are sold in lots, not by the box."

"But I distinctly bid for one box."

"You are mistaken."

"We all bid for lots," declared the customers.

The Southerner concluded he had a bargain anyway, and that his friends would be glad to take such cigars off his hands. He thought that he might, after all, have been bidding under a misapprehension.

He wrote an order on a prominent hotel where he was staying for $60, and directed that the cigars be sent there. Then he went down town and forgot all about the matter until evening.

When he returned to the hotel the clerk said:

"We paid your order, but we know that you have been swindled."

"Oh, no; the cigars are worth double the money."

"Look at them and see!"

The package was untied, and twelve boxes of the commonest kind of cabbage-leaf cigars were exposed to view. The Southerner turned away in intense disgust.

"Don't give me away," he begged. "Rather give the cigars away—to the porters—anybody."

The next day he took a policeman to the auction store, vowing vengeance. The place was empty, and he invested another dollar in treats to the official, begging him also in the same disgusted manner:

"Don't give me away."—[New York Tribune.

She Blistered Him.

A young man goes twice a week to see a young lady residing a few miles in the country, making his journeys on foot. On Friday night he remained with the girl until midnight and found it dark and snowing when he went to the door.

He disliked to go home in the darkness and hinted the fact to his girl, but as she did not invite him to remain over night, he resorted to deception to accomplish his design and is now sorry for it.

He let himself fall gently upon the steps and at once set up a groan. The girl shrieked, the men folks came out, picked him up and put him to bed. His prospective mother-in-law inquired the location of his injuries, and when he said in the small of his back she left the room hurriedly.

He had just began to congratulate himself upon the success of his ruse as he listened to the storm beating against the window, when his intended mother-in-law returned to the room bearing a huge mustard plaster, which she clapped over the region of the kidneys and sat down to wait the result.

For two hours he writhed in pain, and by that time a blister of sufficient size to satisfy the old lady appeared and he was left alone to repent his folly.

He says he will never practice deception again as long as he lives, and can never feel as kindly toward the young lady's mother as he has heretofore, as every sight of her from this time forward will be suggestive of mustard plasters and misery.—[Hudson (N. Y.) Republican.

The Polyglot Population of Texas.

The messages of the Governor of Texas reach the polyglot population of that State in four different languages.

Thirty thousand copies are printed in English, 10,000 in German, and 5,000 each in Spanish and Bohemian.

NATIVE HOUSES OF ALASKA.

Homes of the People in the Territory Our Government Bought from Russia.

The houses of the natives are much the same in all divisions of Alaska. The dwellings are thus described:

A circular mound of earth, grass growing and littered with all sorts of household utensils, a small spiral coil of smoke rising from the apex, dogs crouching, children climbing up or rolling down, stray morsels of food left from one meal to the other, and a soft mixture of mud and offal surrounding it all.

The entrance to this house is a low, irregular square aperture, through which the inmate stoops, and passes down a foot or two through a short low passage on to the earthen floor within.

The interior generally consists of an irregularly-shaped square circle, twelve or fifteen feet in diameter, receiving its only light from without through the small smoke-opening at the apex of the roof, which rises, tent-like, from the floor. The fire-place is directly under this opening.

Rude beds or couches of skin and grass mats are laid, slightly raised above the floor, upon clumsy frames made of sticks and saplings or rough-hewn planks, and sometimes on little elevations built up of peat or sod.

Sometimes a small hall-way with bulging sides is erected over the entrance, where, by this expansion, room is afforded for the keeping of utensils and water vessels and as a shelter for dogs.

Immediately adjoining most of these houses will be found a small summer kitchen, a rude wooden frame, walled in and covered with sods, with an opening at the top to give vent to the smoke.

These are entirely above ground, rarely over five or six feet in diameter, and are littered with filth and offal of all kinds; serving also as a refuge for the dogs from the inclement weather.

In the interior regions, where both fuel and building material are more abundant, the houses change somewhat in appearance and construction; the excavation of the coast houses, made for the purpose of saving both, disappears, and gives way to log-structures above the ground, but still covered with sods.

Living within convenient distance of timber, the people (inland) do not depend so much upon the natural warmth of mother earth.—[Chambers's Journal.

The Mad-Dog Scare.

"You see, we have been excited about this mad dog scare, and I asked pa what he would do if he met a mad dog. I told him he would get up and dust, but he said he would grab the dog by the hind legs and beat its brains out.

"He said men were cowards generally. He hated to see men get frightened and run when any calamity happened.

"I thought I would try pa, 'cause I never heard of his showing much sand.

"So I took out my black setter dog, and took pa's leather brush and put lather all around the dog's mouth for foam. Then I took one of these little rubber bands and put it around the dog's upper jaw. That made the dog show his teeth and chew, so as to get the rubber off.

"But the dog wagged his tail all the time, 'cause he knew it was only one of my jokes on him, and he was—

But he did look savage.

"When pa came in from down town at supper time I was up stairs with the dog, and I let him go, and he went down stairs on a gallop to welcome pa. He thinks everything of pa.

"Pa saw him coming and he saw the foam on his mouth, and pa's hair just raised right up.

"The dog was going to jump up on pa as usual, and have pa take off the rubber band, but pa yelled, 'Take him off! He's mad! Hanner, lock yourself in the closet and telephone for the patrol wagon.'

"Well, you'd a dide to see pa. He jumped right over the dog, and went down the cellar stairs at two jumps, and crowded in the coal-bin under the kindling wood.

"I wiped the lather off the dog's mouth, and took the rubber off, and me and the dog went down cellar and hunted pa out.

"When pa saw our dog wagging his tail and acting so happy, and no froth on his mouth, he came out, and then he said, 'That settles it. I drank an egg-nogg down town, and it went to my head, and I thought I saw egg-nogg all over the dog's nose and mouth, and I thought he was mad. Poor doggie! No more egg-nogg for your Uncle Ike.'

"And then pa crawled out of the coal-bin, and gave me half a dollar not to tell anybody he was scared."—[Peck's Sun.

Night Time In Cairo.

And so to bed at the unwonted hour of 10, under the fatal illusion that the amount of fresh air we have imbibed will induce quick sleep.

After an hour or two of undisturbed meditation, however, we are startled to discover a huge rat investigating our pillow. The chase affords five minutes' diversion; but he makes good his escape through the window, as if he knew the way well, and disappears. Ten minutes later he reappears at another window, and, on being dislodged, shows up again at a third. The mystery is explained by our discovering a small cornice running round the house, which is evidently a rats' highway. After another hour or so spent in fruitless endeavors to get rid of the creature, we place a piece of cake on the window sill at his disposal, and he probably eats himself into a state of peace.

At 6 in the morning we are awakened by one of the officers, who insists on our going down for a swim in the sulphur tank. For the moderate charge of one piaster we are provided with towels and a wooden shed to undress in.

The tank is open to the air, and a few Bedouins sitting under the trees which line its edge devote themselves to watching our gambols. The water is cool and deep, and the swim is delicious, notwithstanding the suggestive perfume, which strikes one unpleasantly at first.

Back again to a nice little breakfast of coffee, new-laid eggs, fresh rolls and strawberry jam, and then another day's laziness.—[Saturday Review.

Athletic Maidens.

"Have you any records of what your young lady pupils have done during their exercising?"

"I do not keep any, for the pupils do not like the idea of having it talked about. But I can give you several.

"One young lady who was exercising here became so strong that she lifted on the health-lift 700 pounds. Another who took to vaulting, who was only 19 years old, vaulted five feet. This was a splendid leap for a woman."—[Teacher in Calisthenics.

Making Sea Water Drinkable.

A suggestion has been made that bottles containing citrate of silver be stowed away in ships' boats.

Seven ounces of the citrate will, it is said, turn enough sea water into drinking water to supply a man for a week.

MEN IN PADDED CLOTHING.

Thin Legs Made Stout, and Narrow Chests Made Broad.

There is a profession which many people know nothing of. It is that of the man who models the human figure, but not in clay. He models in cloth.

An expert in this art can demand a large salary, and is always sure of employment in the large tailoring houses. A reporter visited a fashionable up-town tailor to have a talk with one of these artists.

He was introduced to a dapper little Frenchman of about 45 years.

"You have had a large experience in your profession, I suppose?" asked the reporter.

"I have given it my constant study for nearly twenty years, and the more I see of it the less faith I have in the common sense of the most of my patrons."

"That's rather a broad assertion to make."

"Nevertheless it is true and becoming more so every day. You Americans are of all people the least satisfied with what nature has given you. You are always trying to go one better than nature, and instead of trying natural means in the way of taking plenty of air and muscular exercise, you substitute the pad and corset."

"Will you tell me the latest idea of a good figure from a dude's standpoint?"

"That depends a great deal upon what the dude wants.

"If he wants a finely-developed pair of calves, I can supply him. If he lacks breadth of chest, I can furnish him with as fine a chest as you could wish to see. Should the deficiency be in the shoulders, I can produce a pair that Atlas himself would envy. The process of producing these is very simple.

"But first I must inform you that I have nothing to do with tailoring. I simply make cloth coats or pads which answer the same purpose to the tailors as lasts to the shoemaker.

"To do this it is absolutely necessary to have an accurate idea of the proportions of the customer, otherwise it would lead to a very amusing confusion.

"Once I had a customer who wanted to possess a shapely pair of legs. The original ones were sufficiently full for all practical purposes, but he wanted them more full. I made some pads for the thighs, calves and hips. They were made of fine chamois leather, and when finished they were sewn into the trousers.

"The result was the gentleman walked on Fifth avenue next morning with finely-shaped legs, but entirely out of proportion with other parts of his body."

"Do many people wear pads of this description?"

"Quite a large number. Most gentlemen prefer to wear padded under garments; by this means they avoid the bulky appearance which padded clothes gives them. The cheapest outfit costs $35."—[N. Y. Mail and Express.

Romance Among The Pigeons.

"It is interesting to see them pair," said Mr. Gaskill.

"Eh?"

"Yes. The rooster who has an ambition to enter the wedded state flies down beside a coy little hen and coos. If she is heart whole and fancy free she pays attention to his wooings.

"If she is already mistress of a nest and does not care for attentions from the opposite sex, she goes on with her feeding, paying no heed to the soft pigeon English of the proposing gallant."

"And if she is single, what then?"

"If the hen turns a willing ear to the rooster he coos gently, as if inviting her to be his bride, and then he rises in the air and flies away followed by the hen.

"The rooster will carry her to the pigeon-house that he makes his home, that is, provided the hen has never had a nest and reared young. Wherever a pigeon nests that is its permanent home, and it cannot be enticed away.

"You see that pigeon on the roof with her feathers all ruffled up. She is a disconsolate widow. She has had a nest in my house, and a few days ago she was courted by one of my neighbor's roosters. They made a match of it, but the hen refused to go home with the rooster and he refused to take up his abode with her.

"So, after several days of ineffectual persuasion, they decided to play quits.

"Therefore she is here and her beau is gone."—[Atlanta Constitution.

He Gave Her His Hand.

The train was slipping along toward Elmira at forty miles an hour, when a passenger came into the smoker and called out:

"Now, gents, there's a woman in the car back there whose case appeals to our sympathies. She's a poor widow, and just as she got on the train some one picked her pocket of $80. She hasn't one red cent to her name, and will be among strangers when she gets to Elmira. Come, now, let's chip in."

Every man in the car cheerfully contributed to the fund—every man but one. He was a young man about 25 years old, poorly dressed, and evidently without much money; in fact, he explained:

"Gents, I'm as sorry as anybody can be, but I'm powerful short on money. I'll tell you what I'll do. If she isn't over 40, and hasn't got a game leg, or a stiff neck, or a bad breath, I'll marry her as soon as we reach Elmira, and take her right out to my farm."

"Well, come in and see her and talk the matter over."

The young man went back to the car with him, and he was favorably impressed at first sight. He sat down and stated his intentions and circumstances, and wound up with:

"I've bin looking for a wife for a year past and haven't found anybody except a cross-eyed gal and a rheumatic widow. If you are agreed we'll be married to-day."

The woman said it was pretty sudden, but she guessed it was the best she could do. A purse of $30 was handed her, and as the pair got off at Elmira, hand in hand, the man said to a hackman:

"Here you! Drive these two fond hearts to the nighest preacher, and drive as if there was a tornado coming up behind you."

Women's Influence in Refining Speech.

There is nothing which is so interesting to everybody as the perfecting of the faculty of speech.

We have an invaluable inheritance in the possession of the English tongue, the most musical, rich and flexible language in the world—getting to be the universal language; and to woman is committed the invaluable and the exclusive power of improving all human speeches, for it is she who teaches the human race to speak.

She is miraculously endowed when she makes her baby speak his first word; and the world gives her credit, by calling a man's language his mother tongue, for the proud confidence which has been bestowed upon her.—[Leslie's Newspaper.

A Model Cow.

A witty auctioneer described the excellence of a cow he was offering for sale, in the following verses:

Long in her sides,—bright in her eyes,
Short in her legs,—thin in her thighs,
Big in her ribs,—wide in her pins,
Full in her bosom,—small in her shins,
Long in her face,—fine in her tail,
And never deficient in filling her pail.

CURIOUS ATTEMPTS AT FRAUD.

Hard Cases With Which Life Insurance Companies Have to Deal.

"A number of curious instances of attempts to defraud life insurance companies were related at the recent convention held in Boston of a number of companies," said the attorney of a well-known life insurance company to a reporter for the Mail and Express.

"One was of a man in Catskill, N. Y., who made application for $10,000 insurance for the benefit of himself and obtained it, and shortly afterwards obtained an accident policy of $5,000 in a New England company.

"I can best give the story in the language of the gentleman who told it and in whose company the $10,000 policy was obtained.

"'The first we heard of the case,' he said, 'was a telegram that the insured referred to had been drowned. My experience in insurance has led me to look with suspicion upon all accidental or mysterious disappearances.

"'We therefore sent an agent to Catskill, who reported that the party, in company with his brother and a boy, had been out fishing at 11 o'clock at night in the Catskill creek, near its confluence with the Hudson river, and that he took an oar to ascertain the depth of the water, lost his balance and fell overboard.

"'Search was made for the body by the citizens of the town in the waters of the Hudson, while we were searching for the body on land.

"'It would be tedious to tell you the skillful work it required; suffice it to say that we found the would-be corpse in Cleveland, Ohio, and on his person found a correspondence written in cipher, and also a key to it, which disclosed an infamous conspiracy.'

"A case told by the representative of another company showed how an agent tried to secure money fraudulently from a company.

"The insurance was effected through an application presented in the name of James W. Heirs, of Norfolk, Virginia. The agent sent on the application. It was perfectly clear.

"The man who had been examined stood six feet one inch and weighed 190 pounds. His measurements were correct. The examination was made by one of the finest and best physicians in the city of Norfolk and the certificate was of course written.

"Through the custom which had been adopted by the association of local treasurers, a receipt was forwarded for the collection of the annual dues to the local treasurer, at the same time that the policy was sent to the agent.

"The local treasurer reported back to the home office that he could not find any such man as James W. Heirs; there was a man by that name who had lived there in the November previous, this application being made to the association the latter part of February, some five months after the decease of the party insured.

"The beneficiary under the policy was a friend of the agent, the party whom he had substituted at the time of making the examination, to whom the money was to be paid in trust for the widow. He was also mentioned in the application as one of the friends of the applicant. A fictitious list of proofs were in all probability to be presented to the association in sixty or ninety days or four months, by the friend of the agent, making the claim for the money, which would have been paid to him, if the company had not investigated the matter, in trust for the widow, who never would have heard of it.

"She was satisfied before her husband died, in November, that he had obtained some insurance in some company, and probably these two men who put up this job had insured this man in some other company, making the policy payable in some manner to themselves and had received the amount of the insurance.

"Another class of frauds upon us are people who have cancers and know it.

"A typical case of the kind was discovered last summer. The man who had the cancer obtained $15,000 insurance on his life.

"On investigation it was found that he had been suffering from it for two years and that he had been treated thirteen years before and had been an inmate of a hospital.

"It was also found in the investigation that twenty-two different physicians had treated the man, although in his application to the company 'no' was the answer given to the question whether he had been treated by any physician within five years. The certificate was made payable to his estate and assigned to his wife. It was found that this woman knew the facts in the case."

"How about suicides?"

"In the Knights of Honor, two or three years ago, from 15 to 20 per cent. of the death losses were from suicides.

"They passed a resolution in their supreme body to prohibit the payment of claims from suicide, and their experience has been since that time that they have not had one-quarter of the number of cases of suicide as before.

"It is a singular fact, as shown in our experience, that persons intending to commit suicide determine upon the act so long beforehand and go about it so deliberately.

"A recent case in point was a man who came to the office of one of our companies and said that he wanted to get insured. He was given a copy of the company's certificate and went away. The next day he returned and said that he did not like the suicide clause. He was asked his reasons.

"He said he might go out hunting and accidentally fall down, and get shot, and the company would claim that he committed suicide. So he thought he would look up some other company. A short time afterwards he committed suicide, and not while out hunting either."

Prose and Poetry.

The birds were singing merrily, and "the flowers that bloom in the spring" burdened the air with their perfumes (this was in the conservatory) when Rosalind McGush stepped to the window to look out upon the snow-clad earth.

"How delightful!" she exclaimed.

"The ice king seems to have taken possession of the universe, while I—I am left to—"

"Yes, Rosey, you are left to eat half a dozen cold griddle cakes for breakfast, when you might have just as well have had hot ones if you had got up early enough."—[Indianapolis Times.

The President's Cane.

Alaska has sent to Washington a cane for President Cleveland.

It was made by Inca, the native policeman of Sitka, and is of yellow cedar, skillfully carved. The carving represents the history of the bear family, that animal being the "totem" of the Kaklwaltons, the most numerous of the two Indian families that constitute the population of Sitka village.

It is finished with a ferule of Alaska gold.

Objectionable Phrase.

"There is one last request I would make," said the dying grammarian; "ask the newspapers if they give an account of my funeral to avoid speaking of it as my 'funeral obsequies.'"—[Boston Courier.

APPETIZERS.

Disadvantage of Being Two-Voiced.

Ben Maddox, who for some time carried the mail between the towns of Hillsboro and Whitney, Texas, is the possessor of a variegated voice. He usually begins speaking in a very high, aspirate voice, and when about half through the sentence falls to a very deep bass, in which he finishes.

One day in returning from Whitney his team ran away, threw Ben out in the mud, and turned the light covered hack which he was driving over on him in such a manner that, although uninjured, he was unable to get from under it.

While he was there a stranger came by, when the following conversation took place:

Ben (in his fine voice): "Hello, mister, will you please git down an' raise this hack up so as I can git out?"

Stranger: "Yes, I guess I can, but how did you get under there?"

Ben (in his coarse bass voice): "The horses ran away, and turned the hack over on me."

Stranger: "Lookee here; if there are two or three of you under there, you are able to raise that hack yourselves, and I am not going to get down in the mud to help you."

And away he rode, leaving Poor Ben to get out the best way he could.

No Pie.

Jesse Wood tells a good story of a farmer whom he saw at the breakfast table one morning in the leading hotel in Nashville.

When the waiter handed the rustic the bill of fare, he glanced over it and remarked:

"Johnny, just bring 'em all in. I'm gosh darned hungry, and just got in Nashville."

The waiter grinned, and, after being gone for a few minutes, returned with dishes that made a great semi-circle around the stranger's plate. He counted them all over, and then, with a doubtful look, remarked:

"Look here, waiter, I don't see any pie, and I'm mighty fond of pie, too."

"Say, mister, we don't set no pie for breakfast at this hotel. Only have pie for dinner."

The country gentleman, with a look of disgust, turned to Mr. Wood, and said:

"Neighbor, this is a —— of a hotel."

"Why?"

"Two dollars a day and no pie."

Doc. Bamford, clerk at the Burnet House, tells a similar story of a man who once stopped at the Tremont House in Chicago.—[Cincinnati Enquirer.

Just the Ordinary Taffy.

"Well, we are penniless, or mighty near it," he said, as he reached home and threw the evening paper to his wife.

"Why, what is it?"

"The Merchants' bank has busted, and we had $1,500 on deposit there."

"But, Richard," she said, after glancing at the article, "the president says he hopes to pay all depositors in full."

"And didn't I say the same to my creditors when I failed in the grocery business, and did a single one of them receive five cents on the dollar?" he howled.—[Wall Street News.

A Near-Sighted Man as a Cook.

Mr. Glick is near-sighted, and his wife was not feeling very well the other morning, so Mr. Glick undertook to get the breakfast ready. Then he assisted her to make her toilet. When they sat down to breakfast Mrs. Glick said:

"John, did you make some toast?"

"No, my dear," he replied, "but just look what a nice beefsteak I fried in butter for you."

"Land of mercy!" exclaimed his wife, as she balanced it on a fork, "you have fried my new seven-dollar bonnet!"

Glick will hire a girl hereafter when his wife is sick.—[California Maverick.

The Uncommunicative Faucet.

Matilda Snowball is a domestic in the family of Judge Peterby.

A few mornings ago Mr. Peterby asked Matilda:

"Why do you go over into the neighbor's yard to get a pitcher of water, when there is a faucet right under your nose in your own kitchen?"

"Huuh, nobody kin hab any entertainment wid a faucet."

N. B.—There is a colored coachman on the adjoining premises.

The Family Storm Signal.

"Pa," said little Eddie McDonald early this morning, "the storm signal is up."

"Is it, my son?"

"Oh, yes. Ma says she found a toothpick in the front door lock this morning and your shoes on the top of the bureau, and she says it's going to be a cold day."

Mr. McDonald went down town without waiting for breakfast.—[Cleveland Plaindealer.

Gave Himself Away.

A man at the telephone the other day shouted:

"Hello, there; why in thunder don't you speak louder?"

An angelic voice replied:

"What did you say?"

"Oh," exclaimed he, recognizing the voice at the central office, "excuse me; I thought I was talking with my wife."—Worcester Times.

A Chinese Humorist.

The Chinaman is not incapable of humor.

Gin Fun, a Sacramento laundryman, has joined the Anti-Coolie League, and posts over the door of his washee house the sign:

"The Chinese must go. None but Melican man employed here."

There is fun in Gin Fun.—[Alta Californian.

The English Drop Letter.

Mrs. Blackfriar (just from London): "Yaw Americans are most perplexing, yaw know. What on earth is a 'dude,' and a 'drop letter?' Yawr a 'ad of us there, yaw know; we've no drop letters in England."

Miss Kate: "I thought H was a drop letter in England."—[Life.

Thrilling Story By an Engineer.

"Ever ride on an engine on a dark, stormy night, eh? Have you learned what a red light means?

"I remember one bleak, dreary night in the winter of, I think it was '77, I was running on the Erie and was pulling what is now train 1. We were behind time, and were whizzing down the hill toward Akron, when we rounded the curve and saw what appeared to be a

Unlucky House.

There is a house in Barnett which is remarkably unlucky. It was built in 1879, and has changed families [illegible] three several times and one of it. Not a family has occupied the house a year without the death of one of its members, and it is said that all of those were taken sick suddenly.—[Atlanta Constitution.

President Cleveland never attended a college of any kind.

The acting Vice-President, John Sherman, is a graduate of the common schools of Ohio.

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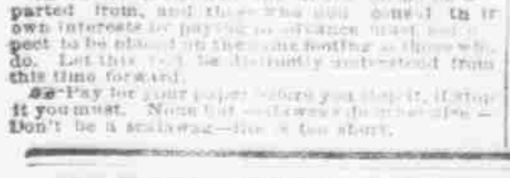

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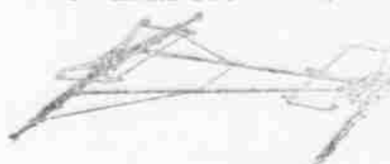

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Cambria Freeman.

EBENSBURG, PA.,

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1886.

ACCORDING to the report of the United States Commissioner of Labor the total number of persons confined in the prisons throughout the country is 57,331, of whom 52 729 are employed in one way or another, the rest being mere drones. The number of men in prison is 48,838 and the number of women 3,-900, or more than twelve to one.

THE sudden rise of coffee is something of a surprise to the heads of families. Although the rise has not been nearly so great at retail as at wholesale thus far, the increase must come around shortly as the retail stock now on hand runs out. Cargoes have advanced as much as five and six cents a pound. This condition of things is due not only to a short crop in Brazil, but the stock of coffee on hand is said to be less by a million bags than one year ago.

THE Lancaster *New Era*, a leading Republican paper, in speaking of Coopers appointment by Beaver as Secretary of the Commonwealth says:

> The effort to convince General Beaver that Senator Cooper is not constitutionally ineligible for appointment to the office of Secretary of the Commonwealth is likely to miscarry. While it is generally conceded that on the ground of political services Mr. Cooper is entitled to recognition, the weight of legal opinion and sound judgment is against making an appointment, of the legality of which there is any doubt. It would be an impolitic initial step for the new administration.

THE present Pardon Board held its final meeting under Governor Pattison's administration on Tuesday last. The application for the release or pardon of the Washington county coal miners convicted of conspiracy, which has been pending before the board for some time, was refused. There may be a show of reason for this action by the Pardon Board, but we confess our utter inability to comprehend it. The petition for their release from prison was signed by *forty* thousand people, and under the peculiar hardship of their case the refusal of the Board to recommend them to Executive clemency seems to us to be a blunder wors than a crime.

THE finances of no State in the Union are in a more healthy and satisfactory condition than those of our own State. It is true that a few of the States have no debt at all, but they are very small ones with neither the wealth or importance of our own. The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund state in their report that during the year $713,-700 of the State debt has been canceled. Although this was not as much of a reduction as was made during the previous year, when over a million of our State debt was wiped out, it shows that the heavy debt that has so long hampered our prosperity is being steadily reduced. If the Legislature will set its face against all unnecessary appropriations and exercise proper economy and reform in our expenditures, the present debt of the State will entirely disappear before an almanac for the year 1900 makes its appearance.

ON Friday last the Senate of the United States took up and passed without debate the bill for the retirement and recoinage of the trade dollar. The bill is substantially the same as the measure that has already been offered in the House on the same subject, and like it provides that until July 1, 1887, trade dollars which are not mutilated, defaced or stamped may be exchanged dollar for dollar, at the United States Sub-Treasuries for standard silver dollars; the treasurer must not again pay them out, but must transmit them to the coinage mints, where they shall be treated and regarded at their bullion value, and at such bullion value must be deducted from the amount of bullion required to be purchased and coined under the act of February 28, 1878, and recoined into standard silver dollars. The two Houses being thus in accord on the subject there can be no doubt about the bill becoming a law.

BY a vote of 30 ayes to 22 nays the Senate on Friday last passed the bill for the repeal of the Tenure-of-Office Act. The repeal of this act has long been a bone of contention in the Senate, the Democrats uniformly advocating its repeal and the Republican majority firmly resisting it. The bill was originally passed in 1867 to tie up the hands of President Andrew Johnson in making removals from office. When Grant came into office in March 1869 he induced his friends in the Senate to so modify it as to enable him to remove objectionable incumbents of office without any serious restraint. The act, however, still contained many objectionable provisions and materially hindered the President in the exercise of his Constitutional power of removal. The Senate has at length yielded the point and left the President's hands free and unshackled by wiping the act from the statute books. The House will concur and the long vexed question will thus be settled. The repealing bill was introduced into the Senate by Mr. Hoar, one of the Republican Senators from Massachusetts.

CONGRESS cannot by any possibility consider more than a score or so of the important bills already on its calendar, but it goes on introducing new bills and resolutions every Monday just as though there were never to be an end to the present session. A number of new bills, some of which possess undoubted merit, were introduced yesterday. The only one of the lot that stands a reasonable chance to be acted on is the one introduced by Mr Morrison, which provides far the usual holiday adjournment. That will be passed without opposition, and the Senators and Representatives will go home to their turkey and Christmas cheer, after which they will return and introduce some more new bills and resolutions to sleep the sleep that knows no waking in committee pigeon-holes. The average Congressman is bound to earn his money, if introducing bills that can never be passed may be called earning it.—*Philadelphia Times, Dec. 21.*

"THE Prohibitionists," says the Philadelphia *Record*, "who have complete controll of the Government of Kansas, propose to give another turn to the statutory screw. It appears that in many towns of Kansas the police authorities, in sympathy with popular sentiment, are not energetic in enforcing the Prohibitory Liquor law. In order to remedy this the Prohibitionists intend to urge upon the Legislature the passage of a metripolitan police system. Under this system the Governor of Kansas is to be authorized to appoint Boards of Police Commissioners, who are to be invested with power to choose all the police officers of the several cities and towns of the State. As the Governor is a fanatical Prohibitionist, the police of Kansas would be selected solely with regard to their activity in spying out violations of the liquor law. The necessity for some such law to enforce Prohibition in Kansas is recognized in the fact that the United States Internal Revenue Collector in that State has issued 2500 licenses to sell liquor within the last eight months."

FATHER FAHEY, the Catholic priest who in the early part of September last was sentenced to six months' imprisonment in the Galway, Ireland, jail for refusing to give bail for his good behavior, was released from prison unconditionally on Monday last. It will be remembered that Father Fahey interceded with the agent of the Clanrikarde estates by the name of Lewis, in behalf of a number of tenants belonging to the priest's parish who were unable to pay their rents. Lewis threatened the tenants with eviction and Father Fahey went to save them from being turned out upon the highway. Lewis treated him harshly and as he left he said to Lewis: "You are hard hearted towards God's poor. May you repent of it." Lewis at once had the priest arrested and charged him with threatening his life—even going so far as to declare that Father Fahey said he would have him murdered. The magistrate ordered Father Fahey to give bail for his good behavior or go to jail. He refused to furnish bail for the reason that it would be regarded as an admission that the charge against him was true, and he was accordingly imprisoned. There was great rejoicing by his friends over his release and on Monday night the city of Galway was illuminated in his honor.

THE jury in the second trial of ex-Alderman McQuade, of New York, who was indicted for accepting a bribe in 1884 in consideration of his vote in the board of Alderman in favor of granting the right to certain persons to lay down street railway tracks in some of the streets of New York, brought in a verdict of guilty on Wednesday of last week. The recorder, before whom he was tried, sentenced him on Monday to be imprisoned at hard labor in Sing Sing prison for the term of seven years and to pay a fine of five thousand dollars. Alderman Jaehne' who was convicted of the same offense several weeks ago was sentenced to nine years and ten months imprisonment. Both convictions were procured by two other Aldermen of the same Board, Duffy and Fullgraff, turning State's evidence and telling all about the corrupt and infamous transaction. Three other members of the board yet remain to be tried—three others are in exile in Canada, one is insane, one is in Europe and two have died. No such wholesale corruption as that of these thirteen Aldermen has occurred in New York since the days of William M. Tweed, who debauched with his money not only the members of the city government but even its very judges, and controlled the State Legislature in the same way when he wished to promote his own interests. It is gratifying to know that each one of those corrupt Alderman upon whom the law can be brought to lay its heavy hand, will meet with swift punishment for corruptly betraying the people whose interests were committed to his care. The conviction of McQuade will exercise a wholesome influence on other city officials throughout the country.

THE motion made in the lower House of Congress on Saturday last by Mr. Morrison to proceed to consider his tariff bill, was defeated by a vote of 149 in favor to 154 against. Twenty-six Democrats voted against and six Republicans voted with Morrison. Of the eight Democrats from this State five voted against the motion, and one, Dr. Swope, of Adams county, voted for it. Scott, of Erie, and Storm, of Monroe, were absent. Both were for the motion, but were paired with two Republicans who were opposed to it. The adverse vote on Mr. Morrison's motion is not construed at Washington to mean that there will be no legislation during the present session to reduce the enormous surplus now in the treasury which is daily accumulating. A bill for that purpose which is said to meet with the approval of leading men of both parties, will be offered in the House at the reassembling of Congress on the 4th of January. The proposed bill will repeal the tax on Tobacco and reduce the tax on whiskey and sugar, thereby decreasing the annual surplus from fifty to seventy millions of dollars. This would be a good beginning to reduce the surplus which the government collects from the people and for which it has no possible use. It simply remains locked up in the vaults of the Treasury when it ought to be in active circulation among the people. It is not at all probable that any successful effort will be made during the present session to revise the tariff, properly so called. And yet the Democratic national convention of 1884 pledged itself "to revise the tariff in a spirit of fairness to all interests," and the Republican convention of the same year pledged itself "to correct the inequalities of the tariff and reduce the surplus." These pledges made to the country must be redeemed.

BOTH branches of Congress adjourned on Wednesday until January 4th in order to spend the holidays. This is a long standing custom, but it would be more honored in the breach than in the observance.

An Old Miser's Hidden Fortune.

James H. Paine, Grand-Nephew of One of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, Dies a Beggar in an Attic and Leaves a Bundle with $400,000 in it.

It is rarely that a more romantic story is heard than that which was told Wednesday of last week before Surrogate Rollins, of New York. "Old Miser Paine's" history and the story of his miserable end have been told by the papers, and their readers will remember that Paine was a grand-nephew of Robert Treat Paine, who signed the Declaration of Independence—a member of one of Massachusetts' oldest families, well bred and educated. On the 23d of December last he died in an attic on Bleecker street, half starved, half clothed, and half crazy. He had been estranged from his family for years, and was buried almost by charity. He had lived nearly a quarter of a century by begging what he ate, and what he wore, yet not very long before his death his brother, Robert Treat Paine, of Boston, had said: "James ought to be worth $250,000 at least in his own right.—What has become of it?" This question has puzzled many a head since, and this is what Charles F. Chickering, the piano manufacturer, answered yesterday.

Ex Attorney General Leslie Russell, who, with Theodore Swift, is conducting the case for the heirs at law, cunningly asked his opponent, ex Governor Chamberlain, of South Carolina, if he had any objection to the witness he was about to call, and was answered in the negative. Chickering then lifted up a big bundle, which he had been jealously guarding on his knees, and walked up to be sworn. Putting the bundle down beside him, in responce to Russel's bidding to tell what he had he began his tale as follows: "I knew James Henry Paine for years before he died. I was brought into communication with him through his love for music. He was an expert musical critic, and this poor old miser had at his tongue's end a wealth of inexhaustible information. But though I had heard that he was popularly supposed to have money hidden away, I never really knew anything about it. One day he came into my office with a bundle in his hand. This is the bundle," pointing to the package beside him. "It was about a foot long and six or eight inches wide. It was wrapped in an ordinary brown paper and tied with an ordinary string. On the outside was carefully bound an old green handkerchief. He asked me if he could leave it in my possession, and I answered 'yes.' I told him I would put it in my safe. He objected to this, and asked me if I had a private safe at home which none of my employes ever opened. I said yes 'again,' and he carelessly replied that he would like me to place it there.

"I took the bundle and locked it up, scarcely ever giving the matter a thought again. Once years afterward, I met him in the street, and were talking about Von Bulow, the pianist, who had recently arrived in this country. Suddenly he interrupted me and asked me if that bundle was all right. I said 'yes;' and he didn't allude to it again. In fact, I think he never spoke of it again during his life."

The little old green bundle remained hidden in the safe gathering dust and forgotten for years. After the old man's death Mr. Chickering remembered the package, and took it from its place one day to see if it contained anything worth keeping. "I had supposed it contained nothing more than some old musical papers," continued he, "and carelessly untied the string. Tearing open one corner I caught sight of a roll of bank bills. It seemed to me in the hasty glimpse I caught that they must amount to many thousands of dollars. I tied the handkerchief together quickly and took the next train for Boston to see Robert Treat Paine, whom I thought was the nearest living relative. He said that there were nearer heirs at law than he, and he named the Claggetts. On the 1st of March, in the presence of Sumner and Charlie Claggett, and my attorney, we opened the packet. Gold and silver dollars, bank notes by the thousand, certificates of stock and script rolled out upon the table. The little old green handkerchief for nearly twenty years had closely guarded treasure amounting to over $400,000. About $14,000 has become outlawed. The $40,000 which the certificates represented has been paid up to me as administrator by the Metropolitan Bank. The remainder of the property is worth its full face value.—There is more property which is not yet collected."

Much more testimony was taken during the day, including that of R. B. T. Wood, who for thirty years was employed in the Metropolitan Bank. He remembered, he said, as far back as 1861, when Paine had made a special deposit in the bank of $40,000 and had received the certificates that were afterwards found in the handkerchief.—They had been made payable to one of the officers of the bank, as Paine did not wish his name to appear. Ex Governor Chamberlain then said that in view of the day's disclosure he would apply to the Court for an increased bond on the part of the administrators commensurate with the estate itself. The administrators have given bond to the amount of $1,000 only. The case was then adjourned till Monday.

PARNELL ON DUTY.

The Home Rule Leader Not Prepared to Speak on the Plan of Campaign.

LONDON, December 19.—Mr Parnell, who has just arrived in London, said that he was slowly but firmly recovering from his recent gastric attack. His doctor will permit him to resume his parliamentary duties on the opening of the session if he promises to be careful. Mr. Parnell does not intend at present to express an opinion on the "plan of campaign," wishing first to go to Ireland to consult with the promoters of the plan, whom he has not seen since the last session of Parliament. He also desires to obtain fuller knowledge in regard to various matters before he speaks on the subject.

He declares that he was not aware that the "plan of campaign" had been devised or even proposed until it had been published. Mr. Parnell will go to Ireland shortly.

A meeting is to be held at Kilrush to protest against Vandoleur's eviction processes. The call for the meeting is printed on handbills and concludes as follows:

"PEOPLE OF KILRUSH: At the most important crisis in our country's history you are invited to become soldiers of Ireland under the banner of the National League."

Commoners Deasy, Harrington and Sheehan spoke at Killarney to-day, denouncing the action of the government. Mr. Harrington condemned the absence of priests from the meeting.

The proprietors of *United Ireland* have had their books, papers, etc., removed to a place of safety in view of the seizure of the paper by the government. If suppressed, the publication will be continued just as when the Land League was suppressed. Commoner Tanner, speaking at Coachford, Cork, to day prophesied the downfall of the government within three months. Commoner Hooper declared that tenants were capable of effecting an honest combination with or without the "plan of campaign." There were no priests at the meeting.

On Saturday night a party of marauders attacked the house of a man named Goggin, of Ballingaree, County Kerry. Two shots were fired at Goggin, who succeeded in escaping. The party subsequently shot Constable Fitzgerald, wounding him in the leg. Twelve persons arrested for complicity in the outrage have been discharged for want of evidence.

FORMALLY PROCLAIMED.

The Anti-Rent Campaign is Called A Conspiracy—To Suppress The League.

LONDON, DEC. 18.—The Irish Executive has formally proclaimed the anti-rent campaign. This action is accepted by the leaders of the National League as a step on the Goverament's part toward the suppression of the league. The funds of the League have already been transferred to France in order to prevent their seizure by the authorities, and the rent moneys deposited with trustees will also be secreted to guard them against Government designs.

The proclamation warns all persons that the inciting of tenants to refuse to pay or to withold rents is an illegal act, and the anti-rent movement, by what ever means carried out, is criminal conspiracy. It says that all moneys, receipts or documents given or received for the purpose of such conspiracy are liable to seizure, and that persons in whose possession the same are found shall be arrested. This sweeping measure is the production of Lord Ashbourne Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and assent to its promulgation was obtained at yesterday's Cabinet Council. It is hoped that the English and Irish Home Rulers will now rest until the meeting of parliament, when early action can be taken in opposition to evictions and to restrain the Government's coercive activeness. In the mean time, however, the Unionist papers clamor for the immediate suppression of the National League, and even demand that trial by jury be suspended in Ireland if the juries refuse to convict the advocates of the anti rent movement.

DUBLIN, DEC. 19.—The proclamation by the Government of the National League's anti-rent campaign, which was published in the *Official Gazette*, has been posted throughout Dublin and parcels containing the proclamation have been sent through the mails and by other means to the provinces.

The Situation in Ireland

In considering the present condition of the rent agitation in Ireland, with regard to either the plan of campaign of the National League or the repressive measures contemplated by the government, it may be well not to overlook the conditions of the contest. Ireland contains 20'159,678 acres of land Of this one man owns 170,119 acres. One-third of the island belongs to only 292 persons and one-half to only 744. These are the landlords against whom the plan of campaign is directed. The refusal of a whole people to pay rack-rent to such an insignificant number of landlords calls for the display of all tha powers and force that exist in the British Empire. But it is not possible that all the force that can be brought to bear will compel the Irish tenantry to pay. Arrests of alleged trustees will only make the people more determined and the violence of injustice will be defeated once again, as it always has been since English robbers stole the domains of Irish kings.

It is one thing to proclaim the anti-rent campaign, but a very different thing to suppress it. For years the Irish tenantry have been paying their rents out of money earned in England or contributions sent from America. While the British Press has been denouncing American contributions to the Irish cause most of these have found their way into the pockets of English landlords in Ireland. This is the thing that is to be stopped. In the future Irishmen are only going to pay rents based upon the yield of their holdings. Nothing could be fairer. A whole nation cannot be expected always to give all that they earn and all that they receive to a few avaricious landlords, and not even the power of England, great as it is, can compel a departure from what is in fact a fair rent campaign except by the eviction and imprisonment or transportation of a whole people.

The aggressive course of the present British Ministry in Ireland is due to the Unionists rather than to the Tories.—With the ferocious zeal of new converts they are demanding that decrepit old men, women and children by the thousand shall be doomed to death by starvation and exposure that a few hundred land-owners may receive their customary levy upon human misery. The situation in Ireland to-day is one that shames England more in the eyes of the world than African slavery ever shamed the United States.—*Phila. Times.*

Rattlesnake Hunting.

In some of the interior counties of Pennsylvania a few survivors of that once numerous class called snake hunters still ply their vocation, but each year finds them growing less. The snake they hunt is the rattlesnake, the oil of which is valuable for its medicinal properties. When a snake hunter starts on a trip he arms himself with a stout prong, cut from the maple or oak. The haunts of the rattler are then sought. If the hunter's aim is not good and he does not pinion the head of the snake with the first thrust of his prong that snake is valueless, because it invariably fastens its fangs deep into its own tender flesh and becomes the victim of the venom intended for its own protection. A score of times, as a boy, I have watched the hunter making his thrust, and I have yet to see a more lightning like action than that with which the rattler strikes himself when bruised by the weapon of an enemy he fears. The snake, once successfully captured, its head is cut off, or its fangs extracted, and then another is sought. The hunter, in time, rarely misses his aim, and it is an unusual thing for one to get bitten. When he does, however, the wounded limb is bound above the wound so tight that the blood cannot circulate, and the hunter coolly fills himself with whiskey and goes home. Some deaths occur from these but not many. If taken at once the whiskey does its counter work well and the hunter never starts out on a tour without a big flask filled to the neck.

Miraculous Escape.

W. W. Reed, druggist, of Winchester, Ind., writes; "One of my customers, Mrs. Louisa Pike of Bartonia, Randolph Co., Ind., was a long sufferer with Consumption, and was given up to die by her physicians. She heard of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, and began buying it of me. In six month's time she walked to this city, a distance of six miles, and is now so much improved that she has quit using it. She feels she owes her life to it." Free trial bottles at E. James' Drug Store.

THE Chinese wall is 1728 miles long, 18 feet wide and 15 feet thick at the top. The foundation throughout is of solid granite, the remainder of compact masonry. At intervals of between 200 and 300 yards towers rise up 20 to 30 feet high and 24 ft. in diameter. On the top of the wall and on both sides of it are masonry parapets to enable the defenders to pass unseen from one tower to another. The wall itself is carried from a point in a perfectly straight line across valleys and plains and over hills without the slightest regard to the configuration of the ground, sometimes ploughing down into abysses 1000 feet deep. Brooks and smaller rivers are bridged over by the wall, while on both banks of larger streams strong flanking towers are placed.

NEWS AND OTHER NOTINGS.

—A lawyer's clerical error in the transfer of a certain piece of property in Kansas City, which in 1844 was sold for $850, has led to a lawsuit over the possession of the land, which is now valued at $200,000.

—At the recent potato tercetenary in London it was argued that the potato was not brought to England by Raleigh from Virginia, but was found by Sir Francis Drake in the Cordilleras of the Andes, in South America, in 1586.

—Miss Catherine Lorillard Woolf, whose death at her residence in New York has been expected for some time, has given away more than a million dollars for charitable purposes, principally to schools and for missionary work in the Episcopal church.

—Charles Brown and Miss Cora Sibley were married Saturday evening at Manistee, Mich. After the ceremony a social dance was enjoyed. About two hours after the ceremony the bridal couple were dancing together when the groom fell dead from heart disease.

—Mr. Gaudier and his daughter were attacked by a bear in Florida and the daughter climbed a tree. The bear followed and hugged her but she spat in his eye, and as she dips snuff he was so disconcerted that he tumbled down. Mr. Gaudier then shot and killed the brute.

—A Charleston newspaper estimates that the total subscription to the earthquake relief fund will amount to about $815,000, leaving a loss of $5,500,000 by the earthquake of 1886 and the cyclone of August, 1885, to be borne by individuals, corporations and the Government.

—Captain McMickan, of the Umbria, went into the port of New York for the 400th time. Seven hundred and ninety nine voyages across the Atlantic, nine trips to India and ten to Mediterreanen ports have carried the veteran captain over nearly 2,000,000 miles of water.

—Elizabeth King, a maiden lady of 82 years, died at Rochesterville, Ont., last Sunday a week, and left her estate of $100,-000 to a young couple—Gilbert Allan and "Chrissie" King—on condition that they married on the day of her funeral. She was buried and they were married on Wednesday.

—Joseph Jackson, of Burr Oak, Mich., wrote his name on a piece of paper to oblige a stranger, who said he wanted it for reference. When the paper was returned to him some time later in the shape of a contract for $200 worth of goods which he did not want, Jackson threw it into the fire and drove off with a revolver the men who presented it.

—Ed Avery, of Synhaven, Va., shot a deer the other day and was stooping over cutting its throat when another deer, a big buck, rushed at him with a great force, and knocking him head over heels down a hill. The buck followed up the attack, and for half an hour man and deer fought with desperation. Avery succeeded in breaking the buck's leg and shortly after his brother came up with a gun and shot the plucky animal.

—James Connor, a blind man, was elected to the Illinois legislature from Cook county last month. He is a musician, and is probably the first blind man in the United States elected to a legislative trust. He lost his eyesight by the explosion of a fowling piece in 1874, and was previous to that accident a marine engineer on the Mississippi river. Afterward he turned his attention to music and was able to earn his living by it.

—Prohibition in the South, says a Nashville writer, has led to one result that is much commented on in that city: "The demand for liquor is so great that the wholesale liquor dealers are kept busy night and day filling orders. One dealer said that his sales amounted to $47 000 more than those booked in the same month last year. The case system of liquor selling is becoming popular, and every mail brings orders from all points through the South."

—Gilbert A. Hickey, a Herdic driver at Boston, drove a passenger to the Suffolk Savings Bank on Thursday a week, where the passenger drew about $3,000 in money and resumed his seat, but dropped the roll of bills on the sidewalk. A pedestrian called Hickey's attention to the fact, and the latter picked up the money, and opening the door of the Herdic, restored it to the rightful owner. The passenger, who is a well known Boston merchant, rewarded the finder for his honesty by giving him a drink.

—In Washington on Monday a week Judge Cox delivered an opinion in the cases of John Hitz, President, and Dr. Chas. F. Prentiss, cashier, convicted of and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary for making false entries in the books of the German American National Bank, overruling the judgmednt of the criminal court and holding that the omission of the averment that the bank "was doing business" rendered the indictment defective. Over forty cases against them are thus rendered defective, and they cannot again be tried, the limit of time having expired.

—On Wednesday a week two men entered the house of John Hewitt, at Rogers' Park, Chicago, knocked him down and robbed him of $70. Two hours later one of them John Harris, was apprehended and taken to the police station, where he mad a confession that Harry Hewitt, an 18 year-old son of the man robbed, was his accomplice. It now appears, from statements made by Harris and Mr. Hewitt, Sr., that young Hewitt, who has been arrested, not only intended to rob his father but to murder him. The elder Hewitt is about 60 yrs. of age and quite wealthy.

—The lack of rain in California this year is causing serious apprehension among farmers. Only a few light showers fell at the close of October and the first week in Nov., and these are insufficient to moisten the ground. Plowing has been impossible, except in very sandy land as in stiff soil a plow cannot be forced into the ground. The usual November sowing of grain has not taken place, and the chances are that when rain sets in it will be so steady as to throw all work on grain into the new year. This long drought in November is not unprecedented, but according to the best weather authorities it is ominous of dry weather.

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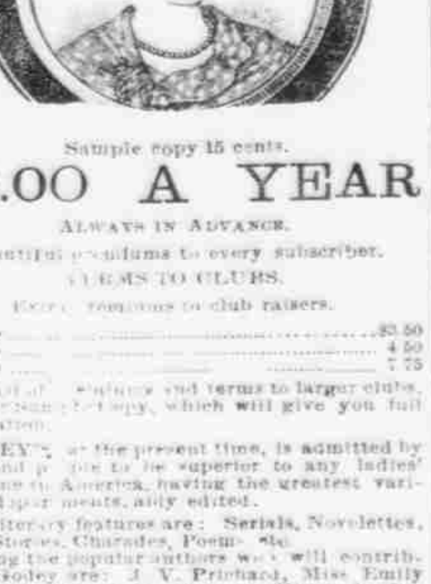

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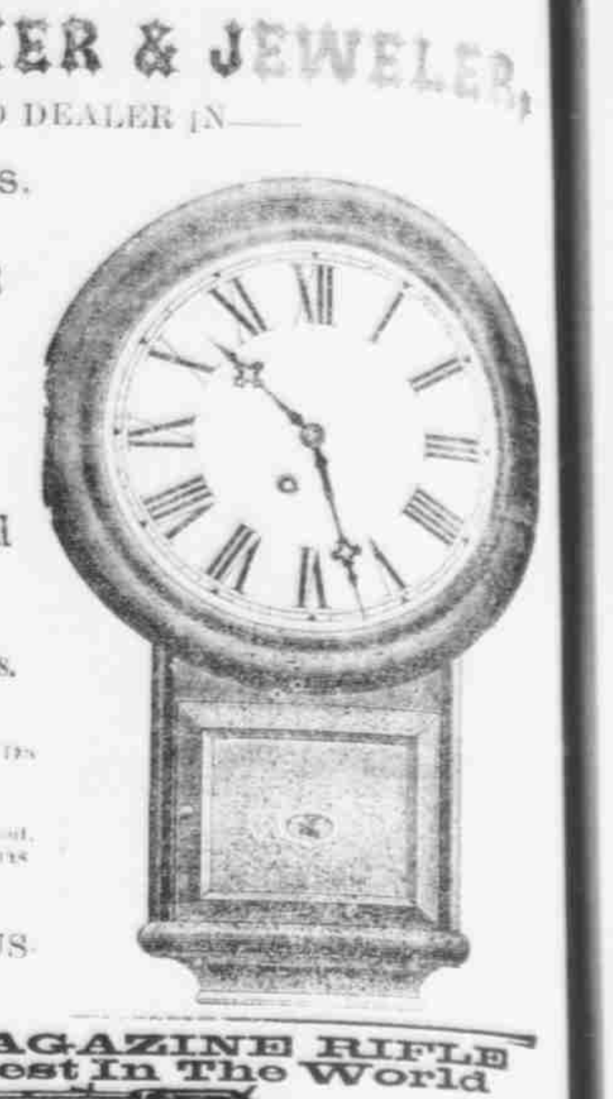

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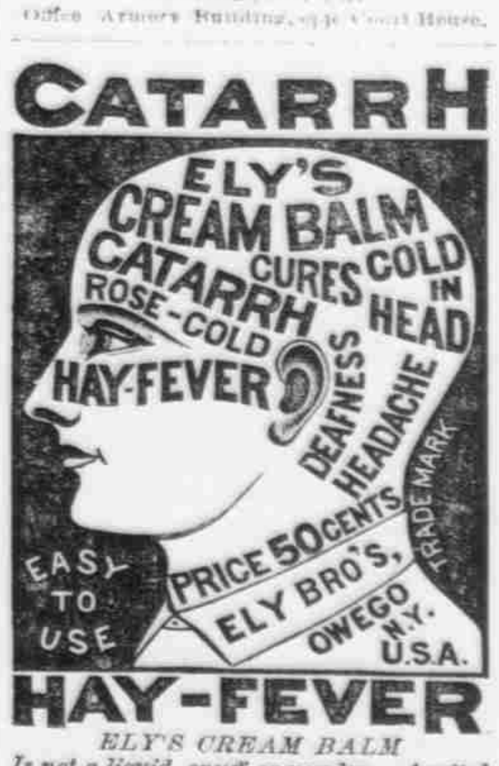

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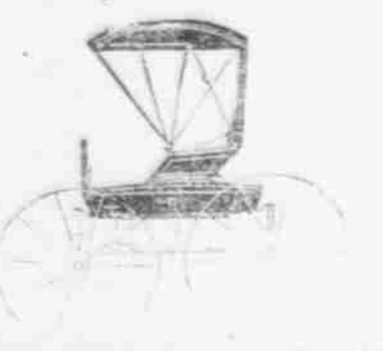

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Ladies' Fine Check Electric Circulars, sizes fifty two to sixty-two	1.37	worth 1.75.
Ladies' Fine Check Steel and Brown Gossamers	1.75	worth 2.25.
Ladies' Fine Check Steel and Brown Cape Gossamers (new, neat)	2.50	worth 3.00.
Misses' and Children's Mother Hubbard Gossamers	1.00	worth 1.50.
Misses' and Children's Electric Circulars (extra)	1.25	worth 1.50.
Misses' and Children's Electric Mother Hubbards (extra)	1.25	worth 1.50.

2Eleventh Avenue. GABLE & CO. Altoona, Pennsylvania.

P. S.—Umbrellas at 50c., 58c., 62 1-2c., 75c., 85 1-2c., $1.25, $1.50. $2.00, $2.50, $3.00, up to our fine $4.00 Silk Umbrellas for Christmas Gifts.

Cresson and Coalport R. R. Schedule.

LEAVES—NORTHWARD.

	Mail A. M.	Exp. P. M.	Mixed P. M.
Cresson,	9.10	1.45	4.32
Wildwood	9.27	2.03	4.50
Dawson,	9.32	2.06	5.00
Amsbry,	9.42	2.17	5.14
Ashville,	9.50	2.25	5.22
Burnt Mills,	9.57	2.32	5.31
Dysarts,	10.00	2.37	5.36
Condron,	10.04	2.41	5.41
Dean,	10.08	2.45	5.48
Frugality,	10.17	2.54	5.57
Fallen Timber,	10.25	3.03	6.08
Flynn City,	10.34	3.12	6.18
Coalport,	10.43	3.22	6.30
Rosebud,	10.45	3.24	6.33
Irvona,	10.45	3.24	6.40

LEAVES SOUTHWARD.

	Mail A. M.	Exp. P. M.	Mixed A. M.
Irvona,	11.00	3.40	5.00
Rosebud,	11.05	3.46	5.08
Coalport,	11.07	3.48	5.12
Flyn City,	11.16	3.57	5.26
Fallen Timber,	11.25	4.07	5.41
Frugality,	11.33	4.15	5.34
Dean,	11.42	4.25	6.08
Condron,	11.46	4.30	6.14
Dysart,	11.50	4.33	6.21
Burnt Mills,	11.54	4.37	6.28
Ashville,	12.00	4.45	6.33
Amsbry,	12.08 P. M.	4.56	7.18
Dawson,	12.18	5.03	7.02
Wildwood,	12.22	5.07	7.07
Cresson,	12.40	5.25	7.30

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

—A merry Christmas.

—A happy new year.

—No paper next week.

—For Christmas candies go to the Sugar Bowl.

—Mrs. Clark, wife of Judge Silas M. Clark, of the Supreme Court is seriously ill at her home in Indiana.

—The attention of our readers is called to the change in the advertisement of L. M. Woolf & Son, of Johnstown.

—Tuesday was the shortest day in the year. The sun rose at 7:21 in the morning and set at 4:36 in the evening.

—For choice tobacco and fine cigars go to the Sugar Bowl.

—The Huntingdon *News* estimates that the number of deer killed in that county this season is not less than one hundred.

—Go and see the new goods received at Carl Rivinius'.

—Senator H. A. Boggs has returned from the West to Johnstown and will be ready to attend to his senatorial duties at the meeting of the legislature.

—Mr. William A. Scanlan, of Johnstown was in the railroad wreck on the Cresson & Clearfield railroad on Monday last. He was severely hurt about the breast but we hope he will soon be all right again.

—The best assortment of candies for the holidays is to be found at the Sugar Bowl.

—Ninety-one thousand dollars was the amount paid on Friday and Saturday last by the Cambria Iron Company, Johnstown, to the employees in all it various departments.

—If you want a nice muff for $1.00 go to Mrs. R. E. Jones'.

—Thomas, a three months old child of John Griffith, Kane, of McKean county, died at that place on Saturday last. The remains were interred in Lloyd's cemetery on Monday.

—A job lot of white hemstitch handkerchiefs for 30 cts. at Mrs. R. E. Jones'.

—R. A. Irwin, a stock dealer, of Hollidaysburg, who frequently visited this place a few years ago when buying stock, has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors.

—Mr. James P. Baker, formerly of the Carrolltown *News*, last week mounted the editorial tripod of the Cherrytree *Record* and that paper will hereafter be under his management.

—You can get a nice fleece lined glove worth 25 cts. for 10 cts. at Mrs. R. E. Jones'

—Forty men were discharged from a large tannery in Clearfield last week for being Knights of Labor. It is expected that a general strike will result unless the men are reinstated.

—Santa Claus will make his headquarters at the Sugar Bowl on the night before Christmas.

—The following named persons can each get a letter by calling at the Ebensburg postoffice. Mr. Jacob Ricker, Augustine Berdenstein, Mr. John T. Davis, James A. Lee, Amos McCalister.

—David Peelor, of Johnstown, an old resident of that place and formerly a frequent visitor to this place, slipped and fell on an icy pavement in Johnstown a few days ago, and sprained his ankle.

—John Heidenfelter, an inmate of Dixmont Insane Asylum, from this county, died at that institution on Thursday of last week. He was sent to the Asylum from this county last Argument Court.

-Remember that you can buy all kinds of jewelry, gold and silver watches, silverware, musical instruments, etc., cheaper at Carl Rivinius' than elsewhere in the county.

—Michael Daily, formerly a resident of Summerhill township, near Wilmore, died at the almshouse on Monday last, aged about eighty-six years. He was admitted to the almshouse about five years ago.

—For a fine gold pen, pencil or toothpick suitable for Holiday presents, go to Carl Rivinius'.

—Mr. James Stych, of Johnstown, died at that place on Thursday of last week. Mr. Stych was married to Mrs. Harriet Orr formerly Mrs. Harriet McCague, who was postmistress at this place about twenty-six years ago.

—Reward—$50 reward will be given for the arrest and conviction of the parties who robbed Casper Carie, in Clearfield township, on the night of December 17th, 1886. Or for the arrest and conviction of either one of the parties. Casper Carie, St. Augustine. December 24th 1886.

—Theodore Young, a flagman on the Pennsylvania railroad, fell from his train a short distance west of Cresson on Thursday morning of last week and was instantly killed. He was twenty-seven years of age, married and resided in Altoona, where his remains were taken for interment.

—Miss Mary A. Doran, of Summerhill township, received the holy habit of the Sisters of Mercy, recently, in the Convent of Mercy at Anoka, Minnesota. The lady will hereafter be known as Sister Mary Lagouri. She is a sister of Messrs. James, Patrick and Michael Doran, the well known locomotive engineers on the Western Division.

—There is nothing like Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil to quickly cure a cold or relieve hoarseness." Written by Mrs. M. J. Fellows, Burr Oak, St. Joseph Co' Mich.

—Mr. Andrew Callahan, of Chest Springs, with a small team weighing only twenty-three hundred pounds, a short time ago, hauled from Melton's bank in Carroll township, a load of coal, the gross weight of which was three tons and sixty pounds. Andy thinks he has the brag team and when his record is beaten he thinks he can put on another half ton.

—One day last week Willie Finecy, of Stackeville, Somerset county, was out hunting rabbits, and tiring of the sport got on a sled at Coleman's station on the Somerset & Cambria railroad to ride home. He went but a short distance when his gun was accidentally discharged, the shot entering his left breast and killing him instantly. He was about eighteen years of age.

—A large number of turkeys have been sold in this place in anticipation of the holidays and the general price is about eight cents per pound.

—An exchange pertinently remarks that the man who takes a paper for three or four years and never pays a cent for it, and then sends three or four copies back without a word of comment, not even as much as a "go-to-hades," or "how-do-you do," and in turn subscribes for another paper, in the hopes of beating another poor printer, deserves a chromo and six years in the penitentiary.

—Excursion rates are given by all railroads during the holiday season and a great many people take the opportunity of making a little trip at that time. Excursion rates are about two thirds of the regular fare and people visiting Ebensburg will find at John Owens' store on High street, dry goods, dress goods, boots and shoes, groceries and provisions sold at the very lowest prices, almost low enough to save the two-thirds fare.

—If you want to keep warm this weather buy an overcoat. The place to get an overcoat is at the Golden Eagle Clothing House, Altoona, Pa.

—William Sanker and David Kough, two of the parties who were arrested last week for being implicated in the Aukenbauer robbery at Gallitzin some time ago, and who were released on bail, were brought to jail on Monday night by Deputy Sheriffs Langbein and Peach. When arrested last week they appeared before 'Squire Parrish and furished bail, but as the crime for which they were arrested is beyond the jurisdiction in which bail can be taken before a justice they were re-arrested.

—It is proposed by the Cambria Iron Co., at Johnstown to operate their "Company" store on the co operative plan. The capital stock will be $200 000 in shares of $10 each, and for thirty days after the opening of the books no person will be allowed to take more than ten shares and after that date they will be at liberty to increase their stock to $1,000 and no more. It is said that the employees of the Company generally favor the scheme, while the merchants of Johnstown think it would be bad for them.

—Mrs. Settlemyer, relict of Mr. George Settlemyer, died at her residence in Summerhill township, near Wilmore, on Saturday morning. The deceased, whose maiden name was Shinafelt, was born in Bedford county, and was aged about 85 years. Upward of sixty years of her life, from the time of her marriage, were spent on the farm where she died. She was the mother of Rev. W. H. Settlemyer, now located in Maryland, Mrs. Daniel Black, and George W. Settlemyer and an aunt of Christian Shinafelt, of this place.

—A stick, or rather a club of candy weighing twenty-one pounds will be chanced of at the Sugar Bowl during the holidays.

—Charles Motheral, nineteen years of age, residing in Shenango township, Lawrence county, committed suicide Tuesday. While at home alone he tied his mother's gingham apron around his neck and the other end to a railing at the head of the stairs leading to the second story of the house. When his sisters returned from school they found him dead. No cause is assigned, as the boy was stout and healthy, and went to the district school close by. He remained at home on Monday for no other reason than to commit self-murder.

—Professor J. W. Leech, of this place, has invented a new and novel device for preventing the loosening of burrs on bolts. It consists of a right and left handed thread being cut on the bolt and two burrs screwed on in opposite directions with a small plate between the two burrs with protruding ends which are bent down over the burrs. Something of the kind that will do the work is said to be much needed for railroad purposes and we hope the Professor may realize handsomely from his invention. He has filed his application for a patent.

—Wanted—Lumber in trade for a new Portable steam sawmill, 25 horse-power, 60 inch saw, 40 foot carriage and 80 foot ways. Apply to this office.

—The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has issued an order, which took effect Dec. 1st, that hereafter when trains are delayed at division terminal points, such as Pittsburg, Altoona, Harrisburg and Philadelphia, the men be allowed for delays as follows; Engineers: First class, thirty cents per hour; second class, twenty-seven cents per hour; third class, twenty-three cents per hour; fourth class, twenty cents per hour. First class conductors will receive twenty-five cents per hour; second class, twenty-three cents per hour; third class, twenty cents per hour. Flagmen will get eighteen cents per hour and brakeman sixteen cents. The men were frequently delayed from one to twelve hours, and heretofore no extra pay was allowed.

—On Friday last Mr. Jonathan Lloyd, of Cambria township, who is employed at ex-Sheriff Griffith's log job in Jackson township, was severely injured while cutting timber. He was by himself and had cut a tree which lodged against another when falling. Mr. Lloyd undertook to cut down the tree which the other had lodged against and while doing so the first tree fell, the limbs of which struck him on the head cutting him badly. He was some distance from where the accident happened and unconscious when found. He was taken to the house of Mr. David Bracken, medical aid was summoned, and we understand that although his skull is fractured badly and his condition critical the physician has strong hopes of his recovery.

—The largest and best stock of overcoats ever brought to Central Pennsylvania is now to be seen at the Golden Eagle Clothing House, Altoona, Pa.

—On Friday evening, about seven o'clock, three masked men entered the dwelling of Casper Carie, an aged citizen of Clearfield township, who resides about a mile west of St. Augustine, and roughly seized the old man and demanded his money. There was no one in the house except a daughter and she was too badly frightened and could not, even had she had the courage, been of any assistance to the old man. Mr. Carie refused to hand over his money, when the three men bound his hands behind his back and put a gag in his mouth, and then proceeded to search the house. They found about four hundred and forty dollars which they carried off. The ruffians abused the old man considerably by punching him in the sides trying to make him tell where the money was kept. We understand that there is a strong probability of the thieves being caught, as Miss Carie is pretty certain that she recognized one of the party, and a warrant has been issued for the arrest of the persons suspected. We hope they may be caught and retired for a long term in the Western penitentiary.

—Rupture instantly relieved by the use of the celebrated Fry Truss, for sale at Davison's drug store.

—Miss Lizzie Sweeny, of Loretto, arrived in town one day last week. Miss S. will teach the Blain City school this winter —*Coalport Standard.*

—The two boys and girl for whom homes were wanted as noted in last weeks FREEMAN, have each secured places we are informed by Steward Lilly.

—A single sheet of paper, 72 inches wide and 7¾ miles long, was made without a break in a paper mill at Watertown, N. Y., a few days ago. The sheet weiged 2,207 pounds.

—Miss Emma Spencer, a young lady of Lumber City, Clearfield county, a few days ago shot a large hawk with a rifle. She went before a justice and made oath to the killing of the hawk, and received the bounty to which she was entitled.

—The Dauntless fire engine was taken out on Wednesday afternoon for the purpose of testing it. It was found to be in very bad condition and would not throw water at all. It should be attended to at once as there are places in town where in case of fire the water would be almost useless, without it.

—Hesper Campbell, aged about twenty years and a son of Harvey Campbell of Williamsburg, Blair county, died at the home of his parents in that place on Tuesday, after an illness of six weeks from typhoid fever. Harvey Campbell was at one time a resident of this place, and a brakeman on the E. & C branch.

—The Commonwealth, on Friday last at Harrisburg, brought suit against Gen S. M. Bailey, late State Treasurer, and his bondsmen to recover $70,000 of State funds which General Bailey lost by the failure of the exchange Bank of Bradford, in which that amount of the State's money was deposited. General Bailey's suit against the bank has not yet been decided by the Supreme Court.

—A correspondent at Cresson writes us: "On Saturday last John Sanker, of Allegheny township, butchered a hog, which tipped the beam to the tune of 475 pounds, dressed meat. About three weeks ago John T. Storm of Gallitzin, butchered one that dressed 600 pounds. Ebensburg will have to do better than noticed in the last FREEMAN before it can claim the prize for "boss porkers."

—Two young sons of Charles W. Williamson, Esq., of Shade township, were out hunting one day last week, when one of them was suddenly startled by seeing a young deer within a few feet of him, passing between a ledge of rocks. The young man made a sudden jump and grabbed the deer by the hind feet, at the same time calling lustily to his brother to come to his assistance. Although the deer kicked viciously, the stalwart young man retained his grip till his brother arrived and shot the animal.—*Somerset Herald.*

—William Tomlinson, of Loretto while out sleighing on Monday night was upset on the road between Chest Springs and Loretto. The horse ran off keeping the road until he reached Cresson, where, after passing the ticket office he took the railroad track to Lilly's where the sleigh was caught in a frog and was left. The horse was caught shortly after, near Lilly's, and, although he had lost all his shoes, he was not perceptibly hurt. The horse belonged to Andrew Hileman, of Gallitzin, who came here on Tuesday on the hunt of it, Mr. Tomlinson having lost trace of it after passing Loretto, and while here conductor Snyder informed him where it could be found.

—William Broderick, who together with a young man named Stack, was released from jail at last term of court by Judge Johnston for the reason that Justice Bland, of Johnstown, who had committed them for surety of the peace, had no jurisdiction in the premises, is again behind the bars for a similar offense. He was committed several days ago by Justice Bland, on oath of his father, William Broderick, Sr., who swore that his son had threatened to knock his (the father's) brains out. The old gentleman also testified that the son drove his mother barefooted from the house on a bitter cold night, the ground being covered with snow. Many persons think it is but a question of time when the Broderick abode will be the scene of a brutal murder.

An "Ideal" Edition of Longfellow's Poems.

The expiration of copyright is at last bringing into really popular circulation the works of some of the most celebrated American authors, whose writings the high cost of monopoly has kept within the hands of a few. Alden, the *Literary Revolution* publisher, has recenty brought out a number of the best books by Hawthorne, Prescott, Emerson, Poe, Cooper, and others. He has now just published a very pretty volume of Longfellow's poems so far as copyright has expired. It is the form which he is making famous as the *Ideal Edition*—beautiful enough to be worthy of the name—the type being large Long Primer, the printing and binding (cloth) in excellent taste. People who have been used to buying Longfellow might suppose the price of the handsome volume to be a dollar or more—instead of which Alden only ask 25 cents for it! Postage, 5 cents extra, if by mail. Alden's latest catalogue, 64 small quarto pages, which he sends free to anyone (his publications are not sold by book-sellers, buy direct only), is a veritable literary wonder in its attractions. Addres John B. Alden, Publisher, New York or Chicago.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The best salve in the world for Cuts Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale By E. James

MARRIAGE LICENSES ISSUED.

The following marriage licenses were issued by the Clerk of the Orphans' Court for the week ending Wednesday, December 22, 1886:

Edward Cooper Will, Coopersdale and Mary Maud Harris, Jackson township.

Clement Harris, Jackson township and Mollie A. Good, Taylor township.

A Good Nurse

Should not hesitate to wait upon those ill with such diseases as Small-pox, Cholera or Scarlet Fever. There is little to be feared by persons waiting on the sick if they will use Darbys Prophylacic Fluid freely. In sick-rooms it should be exposed on plate or saucer, and the patient sponged off with the Fluid diluted. For safety, cleanliness and comfort in the sick-room the Fluid is indispensable.

Educational.

We have been requested by a number of teachers belonging to the different reading circles to present an outline for the course of professional reading.

The majority of the reading circles and local institutes have adopted Raub's School Management and Parker's Talks on Teaching as text books for a course of reading and study. The outline here presented will be made according to the arrangement of topics by these works. As the term is too short for the study of all topics, it is thought best to recommend such topics as are of special importance for the actual work of schools.

School Management and Hygiene, pages 27—42, School Organization, chapter 2, including programs, school signals, seating and recesses. Parkers Talks, 1, 2, 3 and 4. These talks are brief but include the nature and object of teaching.

School work, chapter 3, including discipline conditions for study, helps to study and incentives comprise reading for second meeting. In Parker's Talks, the subject of reading is continued in talks 5, 6 and 7. The application of correct principles are here presented.

The third division or outline includes the recitations, questioning, attention, criticisms etc., and continues chapter 3 ar far as to the recitation. Talks 8 and 9 concludes reading and talk, 10 takes up spelling and presents the different methods.

To profit by a course of reading, teachers should read a portion of each lesson daily, unless a course of reading and study is pursued in a systematic manner and, continued during the term, but little good will be accomplished.

While the foregoing outline may serve as a guide to the leaders and teachers of the various sections, yet they should be governed in the assignment of lessons by the direst wants and desires of the teachers. Some topics may require a review and others passed over mor rapidly.

At some of the meetings, the attendance has not been up to the expectations of the leaders of these meetings. Teachers who do not assist to carry out their own resolutions of the County Institute are open to censure.

The *Reporter* has also been adopted as supplementary reading for the reading circles; The leaders report much interest and enthusiasm in the work of the different circles and with the combined strength and support of our teachers, great good will be accomplished for our schools.

Respectfully,
COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT.

THE best medical writers claim that the successful remedy for nasal catarrh must be non-irritating, easy of application, and one that will, by its own action, reach all the remote sores and ulcerated surfaces. The history of the efforts to treat catarrh during the past few years obliges us to admit that only one remedy has completely met these conditions, and that is Ely's Cream Balm. This safe and pleasant remedy has mastered catarrh as nothing else has ever done, and both physicians and patients freely concede this fact. The more distressing symptoms quickly yield to it.

YOUNG married people or those about to marry soon, should not forget that Carl Rivinus has some fine sewing machines, the best and easiest running machine in the market, and just the thing to make your young wife laugh on Christmas morning.

St. Lawrence Hotel.

When you come to Altoona stop at this house, which is centrally located on Eleventh avenue, one square from the depot.—Having recently taken charge of this house, I have refurnished it throughout and intend keeping a first-class house. Good meals, good rooms and beds and polite attention are what I offer. Charges reasonable. Large parlor for the use of the public, where you can rest and warm yourself when shopping or waiting for the train. Ladies' entrance on Fourteenth street.

James Heaton, Proprietor.
December 10.—4t.

Renews Her Youth.

Mrs. Phœbe Chesley, Peterson Clay, Co. Iowa, tells the following remarkable story the truth which is vouched for by the residents of the town: "I am 73 years old, have been troubled with kidney complaint and lameness for many years; could not dress myself without help. Now I am free from all pain and soreness, and am able to do my own housework. I owe my thanks to Electric Bitters for having renewed my youth, and removed completely all disease and pain.

Teacher's Reading Circle.

The following is the program for the Teacher's Reading Circle, to be held on Saturday, Jan. 8 1887.

1. Song—by Circle.
2. Recitation—Mattie Howell.
3. A talk on fractions—Prof. Reed.
4. Song—by Circle.
5. Select reading—Mollie Evans.
6. How to teach Hygiene—Prof. Leech.
7. Discussion of Popular Educator—Jessie Hill.

Obituary.

ADAMS—Died, at his residence in Altoona, on Monday Dec. 13 1886, of typhoid fever and typhoid pneumonia of the lungs. Mr. Peter Adams, aged 26 years.

The deceased was a son of William and Elizabeth Adams, deceased, of Clearfield township, and was married nineteen months ago to Miss Alice Ryan, daughter of Mr. James Ryan, of the above named township, and moved to Altoona six weeks ago. He was a kind and loving husband until his untimely death has cast a gloom that will long be remembered by his sorrowful wife and friends. His remains were interred in the Catholic cemetery at St. Augustine on Wednesday the 15inst, after a high mass of requiem for the repose of his soul, which was celebrated by Rev. Father Ryan. May his soul rest in peace.

It was when the storms of winter
Swept o'er the snow-clad main,
And intervening wintry storms
Shed friendly tears in vain
That he bid his friends adieu,
In a calm and peaceful way,
And his imprisoned spirit flew
To realms of endless day.
And he is gone where Angels dwell,
His spirit now is free,
Farewell! sweet spirit, fare thee well!
Earth was too cold for thee.
Yet, sweet snow crusts crown his tomb,
And gentle winds do sigh,
O'er one, who in his youth and bloom,
Was called upon to die.

Book Notice.

LEISURE HOURS for December is an excellent holiday number full of novelties to please the fair sex. An attractive frontispiece illustration, numerous fashion pages, music and an illustrated poem, are followed by well filled literary pages written by popular authors. Among the latter Marian C. L. Reeves contributes the opening chapters of a powerful serial entitled "The Nut Brown Maid," which is to run through several numbers. Miss Reeves has written several successful novels among which are "Rosebud Garden of Girls," "Pilot Fortune," "Old Martin Boscawen's Jest, etc., etc., and a story from her pen is always received with favor. Two Roses, a Summer Idyl, by Emily Lennox, Maxwell's Ghost, by Mary E. Bradley, a Christmas Story, by Amelia Abbey, a Charade, many good poems art, fashion and literary notes, with household hints, complete an exceptionally good number. LEISURE HOURS has improved greatly under the management of its present proprietor and has added many new features to its pages; besides all the good things given, premiums are offered to every single subscriber.

Price only $1.50 per year. G. H. Hobart, Publisher, Box 1877. New York City.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR RENT.—The undersigned offers the following desirable property for rent: An elegant store-room 20x40 feet, elegant glass window, suitable for hardware store or any other store and there is a tinshop and too's in same building. There is a good garden and lot attached, and rooms in the building suitable for dwelling. A splendid opportunity for one wanting to start a hardware and tining establishment the trade is already established as I have been carrying on the business for years. The above property is situated in Carrolltown, Cambria County, Pa.

ALSO, several lots of ground in a good state of cultivation situated in Carroll township, convenient to the Borough. Possession given April 1st, 1887. Call on or address,

ANDREW H HAUG,
Dec. 24, '86. Carrolltown Cambia Co., Pa.

ARGUMENT LIST.

Argument Court, January 3, 1887.

Rule to show cause....vs....George W. Stutzman, Assignee.
same..........vs..........same.
same..........vs..........same.
Hughes..........vs..........Umbaugh et al.
Judson..........vs..........Kenny.
Road in Reade township from Sam Kuhns to Jno. Kelly.
Hill..........vs....Blaugh & Kaufman.
Emerson..........vs..........Logan.
Farabaugh..........vs..........Bracken.
same..........vs..........same.
McCoy..........vs..........Bradley.
In re petition Cambria Mining and Manufacturing Co. to satisfy mortgage.
Road in Barr township from Gordons to Gittings.
Conning..........vs..........Weakland.
Gallaher..........vs C. C. Co. & N. Y. S. R. R. Co.
Road in Barr township from Notley road, to Indiana county linne.

Prothy's Office, H. A. SHOEMAKER,
Ebensburg, Dec. 20, 1886. Prothonotary.

PITTSBURG WEEKLY POST.
FOR 1887.
ENLARGED TO 12 PAGES.—
THE ONLY DEMOCRATIC PAPER
IN PITTSBURG!

After January 1, 1887, *The Weekly Post* will be enlarged to Twelve Pages, one half larger than its present size, thus making the Largest and Cheapest paper in the Country.

POLITICAL—Always Democratic, giving a cordial and candid support to the National Administration.

LITERARY—Illustrated tales, sketches, choice miscellany, biography, and poetry.

WASHINGTON—Ample and reliable correspondence, mail and telegraphic; Congressional proceedings.

MARKETS—Careful reports of the Pittsburg, Foreign and other markets; live stock quotations; the wool growers' interests; money and stock markets, at home and abroad.

CORRESPONDENCE—Interesting and sprightly letters from special correspondents in Paris, New York and Washington, the South and West.

In short in the 12 pages and 84 columns of *The Weekly Post* will be found that careful variety of reading that interests the man of business, the farmer, the politician, the student, and pre-eminently the family and household circle.

Address, THE POST,
Pittsburg, Pa.

A RARE CHANCE

To get a First-Class Illustrated Magazine, with a Premium to every subscriber. This offer is made by the Publisher of

LEISURE HOURS

Best and Cheapest Home and Fashion Magazine published.

——$1.50 per year in advance.——

Contains each month, Fashion and Fancy work Plates, Fashion Notes, Original Illustrated Articles, Stories, Poems, &c., Society Notes, Hints for Farm, Garden and Household. Send stamp for circular giving list of

—PREMIUMS.—

G. H. HOBART, Publisher.
P. O. Box 1877. 292 Broadway, N. Y.

HEADQUARTERS
FOR
HOLIDAY GOODS.

I have now on hand a Large and Fine Assortment of Mufflers, Silk and Linen Handkerchiefs, Dolls, Brass Placques, and Hand Satchels, with all the Latest Novelties in Fancy Goods.

Also, a complete line of Wraps, Ladies', Misses' and Children's Coats, Cloths, Gloves, Hosiery, Muffs, Hoods, Toboggan Caps, Shawls and Underwear all of which will be sold at the lowest prices.

Mrs. R. E. JONES.

DONALD E. DUFTON,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
EBENSBURG, PENN'A
Office in Armory Building.

CLOVER AND TIMOTHY SEED,
Toledo Grades Unrivalled. For samples, quotations and information, address
S. W. FLOWER & CO., Toledo, Ohio.

STRAYED away from the subscribers residing at Gallitzin, Pa., about two months ago one red and white spotted two year-old steer with left horn bent down and one red and white two year-old heifer. Any information of their whereabouts will be thankfully received by the undersigned.

ANSTEAD & DASHNER.
Gallitzin, Pa., Dec 17, 1886. 3-t.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Letters of administration on the estate of Peter Maloy, Sr., late of Barr township, Cambria county, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted to said estate are hereby notified to make payment without delay, and all those having claims against the same will present them, properly authenticated for settlement to

MICHAEL DOWNY,
Adm'r of Peter Maloy, dec'd.
Barr twp., Dec. 17th 1886.—6t.

NOTICE is hereby given that the annual election of Directors of Protection Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Cambria county will be held at the office of the Secretary in Ebensburg, on Monday, January 10, A. D. 1887, between the hours of 10, a. m. and 2 p. m.

T. W. DICK,
Dec. 17, 1886, 3-t. Secretary.

STRAY SHEEP—Came to the residence of the subscriber residing in Allegheny township, Cambria county sometime in June last, four sheep marked with a slit in the right ear and a notch in the left. The owner is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take them away, otherwise they will be disposed of according to law.

PATRICK MELOY.
Allegheny Twp., Dec. 10, 1886.

TO ADVERTISERS!

For a check for $20 we will print a ten-line advertisement in One Million issues of Leading American Newspapers. This is at the rate of only one-fifth of a cent a line, for 1,000 Circulation. The advertisement will be placed before One Million *different* newspaper purchasers;—or FIVE MILLION READERS. Ten lines will accommodate about 75 words. Address with copy of Adv. and check, or send 30 for book of 150 pages. GEO. P. ROWELL & CO., 10 SPRUCE ST., NEW YORK.
Dec. 10, 1886.

STRAY.—Came to the residence of the subscriber in Allegheny township, about the 1st of May, 1886, a dark red bull with white star on forehead and some white on flanks. The owner is requested to prove property, pay charges and take him away, otherwise he will be disposed of according to law.

Oct. 15, 1886. ALEXIS PARRISH.

WANTED SALESMEN For our Reliable Nursery Stock, on Salary or Commission. Write for terms, enclosing stamp to reply. No experience needed. S. A. McOMBER & Co Nurserymen, Rochester, N. Y.

AGENTS WANTED.

Remunerative employment offered energetic and reliable men. *Address,*

Security Mutual Benefit Society,
233 Broadway, New York.
Nov. 26, '86—3 m.

WANTED.—Local and General Agents in each town and city of the Union on Salary or Commission, to solicit orders from business men for our elegant, new style, nickle plated and low priced door plates. Our Salesmen make $5 to $10 a day. We will furnish case with two Sample Plates, to any person with reliable references. Circulars, Testimonials, References, &c, sent on application.

MICH. DOOR PLATE CO.,
Grand Rapids, Mich.
Nov. 11, 1886.

STRAY SHEEP.—Came to the residence of the subscriber in Blacklick township on or about the 1st of September last four sheep. The owner is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take them away otherwise they will be disposed of according to law.

THOMAS L. EDWARDS.
Dec. 3, 1886.

The American Detective Bureau,
Main Offices, 94 and 98 Diamond St.
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Established 1883 by David H. Gilkinson, ex-U. S. Gov't Detective. Organized and conducted on the system of the United States Secret Service. Confidential Agents in all the Principal Cities of the United States and Canada.

D. H. Gilkinson, Principal and Gen Supt
Heber McDowell, Superintendent.
Hon. John Dalzell, Attorney for the Bureau.
Reference: James J. Brooks, Chief Secret Service Division, Washington, D. C. Send for Circular.

STRAYS.—Came to the premises of the subscriber, in Chest township, on or about October 10, 1886, a white steer, two years old, with a notch cut in his left ear. Also, about the same time, a red and white spotted heifer, two years old, no marks visible. The owners are requested to come forward and prove property, pay charges and take them away, otherwise they will be disposed of according to law.

CHAS. RHODY.

FOR SALE—STEAM ENGINES, CLAY AND Ore Pans, Boiler and Sheet-Iron Work.—Second-hand engines and boilers on hand. Hoisting engines and machinery a specialty.—THOMAS CARLIN, Allegheny, Pa. (Jan. 22.-1y.)

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HIGH STREET. - - - EBENSBUR

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Ebensburg.

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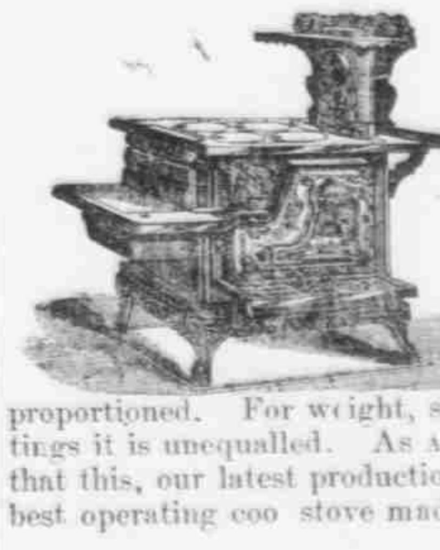

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J. H. GANT, Proprietor.

THE PUBLIC will always find me at my post of business in business hours. Everything is neat and cozy. [illegible]

FOR SALE.

A valuable Hotel property known as the Blair House, situated in the West ward of Loretto, Pa. For further particulars inquire of the undersigned. JOHN J. BLAIR.
—Ebensburg, May 17, 1886.

ALL kinds of Job work neatly and expeditiously executed at this office.

ADVERTISERS by addressing Geo. P. Rowell & Co., 10 Spruce St., N [illegible] Page Pamphlet 10c.

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ABOUT 100 AC

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WANTED—LADY [illegible]

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

Dead leaves make a good mulch for ... fruit trees.

A good grooming is as refreshing to a horse as a bath is to a man.

A ... bath, winter and summer, is to ... what water is to a man.

... are a native food for sheep.— ... England feed scarcely anything else.

... Spanish needle, so annoying to ... in the woods and old fields, is ... honey plant. Bees use it.

...ing is so detrimental to pastures ... ow a great mass of woody stalks ... py the surface.

...phur and old tobacco leaves burned in the poultry house, the house being ... perfectly tight, will clean out the ...

In stacking hay or straw, keep the ... well filled in the middle and evenly distributed on all sides, so that it will ... uniformly.

Apple trees need a supply of some ... plant food as soon as they ... bear; so do crops of cereals on ... farms.

For the successful raising and fattening of stock, three things are necessary ... nourishing food, fresh air and ... water.

A German entomologist says that ... of the insect enemies of trees are ... by spiders than by all the ... eating birds.

There is nothing that will absorb foul ... sooner than milk, and in the winter it should be taken away from the ... as soon as milked.

... carefully exploring to the ends of ... roots, it is found that the beet draws ... nourishment downward and outward ... all directions several feet.

The careful, successful stock grower ... a study of each animal under his ... and varies the treatment in ... as well as in sickness.

... plants or tall growing celeries should be avoided. As a rule they are ... more hollow, give twice the labor and are inferior in flavor.

It is useless to hope to destroy the ... of some soils by the application of lime and other supposed correctives. ... drainage will accomplish it.

To feed a young calf with too much ... skim milk will almost always give ... the scours. The milk should ... ed at first to blood heat.

... is recommended as the best ... for grapevine pruning, as then the wounds quickly heal up, and are not ... by excessive bleeding.

Dead branches of fruit trees, which ... be removed, are more easily ... now than while the leaves ad... the live twigs and branches.

... farmers regard rotation as ... and most economical mode of ... art to the land—cheaper, they ... any mode of manuring.

... struggle against weeds may be ... in autumn with more or less ... long as their seeds can be in... sprout, ready for destruction ... harrow.

It was recently decided by the Grand ... Valley Horticultural Society that ... ng a blackberry plantation, it is ... to buy root cuttings than to use ..., although more expensive at the ...

... kind of grain, and, except hay, no ... farm crop is so generally consumed ... farms where grown as corn. It ... on for every kind of farm stock, ... many places forms an important ... the food of the farmer and his ...

... straw is used for protecting straw... patches it is apt to fill the soil with ... seeds, beside being in the way in ... Potato tops are free from ... and against spring much of ... abundance will be washed down ... soil, making a fertilizer rich in ...

... roots are commonly too dry if ... an ordinary cellar. They shrivel ... equally in weight and value ... some dirt is mixed with them and ... over them to exclude drying ... again, the temperature must be ... a little above freezing, or they ... out and grow before spring.

Remember that rye can be raised on ... that will not produce fair crops of ... without a great expenditure of ... and fertilizers. It is a good crop ... that are sandy and deficient in ... of fertility. Growing rye ... excellent winter and spring pas... and is also an excellent material ...

The stalks of corn are of some but not ... for feeding. They are, ... highly prized by many for ma... to mattresses, and a ready sale ... prices can generally be had ... saved in good condition and ... markets. They are lighter for ... bulk, if well cured than straw, and ... much more durable bed.

Other things being equal, short stalks ... are better than long ones. Of ... equally good select that which ... on the shortest stalk. Short stalks ... that the corn is early, and this in ... parts of our State is an important ... consideration. Part of the difficulty in ... corn of late years is due to the fact that we have not selected seed for ... ness.

... long feeding is a common mistake ... fattening fowls for the market. It ... the profits when a shorter time ... answer. If kept in a dark place ... fed with all they can eat they ... in twelve or fourteen days, ... this is continued much longer ... will begin to grow poor again.— ... to be kept over should not be sub... to this fattening, or rather this ..., process.

The best of roots for the horse in win... the carrot. Enough should be ... ed to give two or three messes a ... though, where they are plenty, a better plan is to feed some each day ... oats or other grain, the ration of ... may be proportionately diminish... To buy them they are generally as ... as oats, but may be grown for much ... at, a good crop of carrots yielding ... two to four or six hundred bushels ... acre, according as the small or large ... ties are grown.

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clears out rats, mice, roaches, flies, ants, bed-bugs.

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Cures piles or hemorrhoids, itching, protruding, bleeding, internal or other. Internal and external remedy in each package. Sure cure, 50c. Druggists.

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Ladies who would retain freshness and vivacity don't fail to try "Wells' Health Renewer."

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"Rough on Itch" cures humors, eruptions, ring worm, tetter, salt rheum, frosted feet, chilblains.

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Corrects offensive odors at once. Complete cure of worst chronic cases, also unequaled as gargle for diphtheria, sore throat, foul breath. 50c.

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Children, slow in development, puny, scrawny and delicate, use "Wells' Health Renewer."

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Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all kidney and urinary complaints cured by "Buchu-Paiba." $1.

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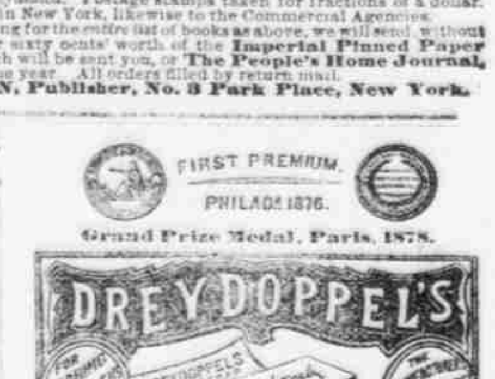

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DOWN THE CHIMNEY.

The Visit of an Unwelcome "Santa-Claus."

A Tale of New York in 1800.

"MARY, the boys and I will have to go down to the village to-morrow morning with the wood, and I don't suppose we'll be able to get back before Wednesday morning. but I guess you won't be afraid to stay here one night alone, will you?"

John Comstock did not look at his little wife as he spoke, but stood with his back toward her, shaking the snow from his old gray hat and coat, for he well knew the shade of disappointment that was passing over her face.

"Why, no, of course I'm not afraid," was the ready reply. "What should I be afraid of, and up here among the mountains in this honest little place?—but it won't seem quite like Christmas eve to-morrow night without you all—and you know it will be the first time we havn't spent it together since we were married," she added, hesitatingly, with a slight tremor in her usually calm voice.

John said nothing, but went to the window and looked out. The storm was beginning to break away. The snow was now falling more gently, and in the East faint luminous streaks of silver gave signs of a perfect moonlight night. He turned with a brighter face, and spoke cheerfully:

"The storm is evidently about over. If no more snow falls the roads will be fair, and if we can get an early start in the morning I think we can manage to get back home before midnight—at least some time before Santa Claus comes down the chimney," he added, merrily—"but see here, little wife, I almost forgot the good news that I have to tell you. Parson Stanley settled that old account with me to-day—paid me every dollar and, interest besides, and here it is. Now go and put it in a safe place, and take good care of it till I get back. Next spring we'll put a face on this old log house that our neighbors won't recognize. Great guns! I'd like to know where all this cold air comes from!" broke off John, with a sudden change of subject. "Good evenin'! good evenin'! I thought I'd walk right in without knockin', kind o' neighbor-like, yer know," and the somewhat startled pair looked to see their neighbor, Hiram Ottwood, standing in the doorway.

"Jiminy! man you might as well kill a fellow as to scare him to death," good naturedly exclaimed the honest host, springing up and placing a chair for his queer guest.

"Do tell! did I skeer yer? I thought I made a great rumpus as I came onto the stoop."

"We were busy talking and didn't hear you. Why how blue you look! Here, take my chair near the fire, I'm going into the other room for awhile," and the kind-hearted hostess rose as she spoke.

"O no, I'm not a bit cold. Just you keep your seat," he feebly murmured, dropping into the proffered chair nevertheless without any ado and spreading his rough, cold hands in the very blaze of the cheerful fire. "I tried to git wife to come over with me fer a little chat this evenin', but she was a-gittin' the chil'dern to sleep and couldn't leave," and the wretched fellow's teeth fairly chattered as he tried to keep up a show of conversation.

"Im real glad you've come over, Hiram, for I want to ask you to keep an eye on my premises while I'm gone down to the village."

"Jest so! When be you goin'?" was the quick inquiry.

"To-morrow morning, bright and early," replied the other, "and I can't get back till real late to-morrow night."

"Well, I'm goin' down thar myself to-morrow noon, but I'll have Hanner look arter things."

"Is that so;" inquired the astonished John, for a trip to the distant village was not an every-day event among those simple mountain dwellers.

"Yes, that's so, but if Mrs. Comstock feels at all skeered I'll have Hanner come over and stay all night with her. I saw two or three Injuns a-passin' down the road to-day, and mebbe you'd ruther not be alone, Mrs. Comstock," he said, addressing her as she now appeared.

"Indeed, I'm not the least bit timid," was the spirited reply. "There's not enough life left in one of those poor creatures to frighten a baby."

"You're right. They wouldn't worry a muskeeter. But I must be a-goin' now." And, rising the awkward visitor drew an old faded scarf from his pocket and enveloped his head and neck in its folds. "Where be the boys to-night?" he suddenly asked. "Oh, they have been abed an hour. They're going with me in the morning, you know," and poor, tired John tried not to look bored as the fellow still lingered. A few moments later he growled a sort of good-night and took his departure, slamming the door as he went.

"As good and honest a soul as ever lived," said the husband at last, daring to break the silence with a hearty laugh.

"You don't suppose he is near enough to hear me, do you? I'm so sorry he's going to be gone to-morrow, for I could feel perfectly easy about you if he were only going to be at home. I'll tell you what I'll do; I'll stop at Mrs. Otwood's in the morning and tell her if any thing happens up here, or if you want her you'll blow the dinner-horn and let her know."

"O, pshaw, John! what is going to happen? You go and get your kindlings ready for the morning, and dont let me hear any more of this nonsense," and she kissed the shade of anxiety off his face and went into the little bedroom adjoining.

Long before sunrise the simple household was astir, a hearty breakfast was eaten, and a half an hour later a woman's forlorn figure might have been seen standing alone in the road outside the humble dwelling, in a listening attitude, as the occasional sounds of beloved voices came back to her on the still wintry air. Not until the last tones had died away did she turn and go into the house. It was not long before the sun rose clear and bright, and soon industrious hands dispelled all lingering sense of loneliness.

The usual household duties over, she proceeded to prepare a pleasant surprise for her dear ones. Ere nightfall, from the rude ceiling overhead depended graceful festoons of evergreen; the silvery frost-work of the windows had a worthy emerald setting, and the spacious fire-place filled with golden light and warmth was surrounded by a rich mass of green; in short, the humble little dwelling had been completely transformed by the magic hands of love, and this same touch had fairly transfigured the face and form of the occupant until she appeared every inch the queen of this fragrant summer bower.

At last there was nothing more to be done. Each stocking—Willie's, Henry's, yes, John's, and her own as well—all hung around the chimney, which was surely ample enough to admit the burly form of Kris Kringle himself, if he still kept up his old custom. And now it was time to prepare for the night. As she drew the plain white curtains together she found, to her surprise, that each window was nailed fast, and she knew that this was the work of dear, thoughtful John before he went away. Why had he been so worried about her, she wondered. There was nothing to fear, she tried to reassure herself, as she went to the outside doors and drew the bolts; nevertheless, with candle in hand she searched thoroughly each room, not neglecting to lift the bed-valance, and investigate the proverbial hiding-place of thieves and villains. Then she put the candle out and crept softly into bed. Many times she had stayed alone thus without a shadow of fear—why should she care now? she asked herself again and again, and trying to believe that she was only nervous from fatigue she at last dropped into a slumber.

How long had she slept? She could not tell, but she had awakened with a start, and was sitting up in bed in a half conscious state. She could not tell what had roused her, but she thought it must have been the striking of the clock, for it was just telling the hour of twelve with startling distinctness; yet there she sat motionless long after the last stroke died away in the oppressive stillness. The moonlight was shining through the curtains, casting an uncertain light over each object in the room. It seemed as if some mysterious presence had startled her. She listened with painful interest, her gaze fixed on the window opposite, and, as she looked the dark outline of the casement seemed to move upward. No, it could not be. It must have been caused by the strong wind that was blowing; yet, surely the wind could not move it in that direction.

She thought of the Indians that Hiram had seen that day; she thought of the money concealed under the foot of the bed, and then John's charge to her regarding the danger signal flashed thro' her mind. She sprang out of bed in an instant, but the next moment, to her dismay, she remembered that she had neglected to bring the dinner-horn into the house, and that it was then lying in its accustomed place in the woodshed.—She would not venture out there for a kingdom. All her courage seemed to leave her. Noiselessly she went to the window to ascertain to a certainty that it was secure, and as she examined each one in turn, she could distinctly hear footsteps on the crackling snow, following her, and trying each window. Then the steps seemed to retreat and a few moments later she heard the door-latch softly lifted, but she knew she had nothing to fear from that direction, and taking advantage of the moment she timidly raised a corner of the curtain and looked out. Her fears were all too plainly verified, for there in the bright moonlight was the unmistakable figure of a great, brawny Indian. She could clearly distinguish his swarthy features, and, as his blanket swayed to and fro in the wind she thought she detected a gleaming knife in his belt.

She hastily dropped the curtain and once more listened with breathless anxiety. For a time all was still, then she heard a strange, rustling sound, and the next thing she realized was that a heavy body was creeping along the roof. Great heaven! what was the creature going to do! A noise near the chimney seemed to be her answer. Already he was coming down there, and taking in the situation at a glance, the courage and strength of desperation came to her. To rush in to the room, drag out the straw bed and fling it on the dying embers was the work of scarcely an instant. Then her eyes involuntarily followed the upward direction of the blaze, and there, thro' the thick smoke, she could plainly see hanging in the chimney a dark form, which appeared to be struggling as if to extricate itself.

Wild with terror, and guided now by impulse only, she flew out of the house, reached the wood shed and grasping the horn she blew such loud, frantic notes that they must have been heard for miles in the still, clear air. Then she started to run down the road, but every thing swam before her, her knees sank under her, and she knew no more.

"Never mind; don't talk now," John was saying to her when she came to herself. "I'll tell you all about it if you'll promise to lie quite still and not ask any questions. Santa Claus, *alias* the noble red man, couldn't resist the temptation of trying to come down our chimney when everything was so nicely fixed up for his reception; but he found it rather a tight squeeze and got smothered pretty well by the smoke; but he dropped down at last, and Mrs. Otwood and I reached the house just in time to prevent a thorough roasting. He was very well done on one side and just ready to turn when we came in. I felt a strong inclination to give him a good *basting*, but concluded you needed my attention instead. And now the wily savage has been reduced to an oily one, and lies wrapped in bandages, over at Otwood's. I begged the poor, heart-broken woman to take him in charge, for he bore such a strong resemblance to Hiram that I thought he might turn out to be a long-lost brother, or something of that kind, you know. By the way, I'm under the impression that as soon as the patient recovers we shall lose our neighbors. Can you guess why?" John asked in a most significant manner. "What! you dont understand yet?" he continued, as a confused, puzzled look was the only answer. "Well, your terrible visitor was Otwood, himself, disguised as an Indian chief. You remember how cold and blue he looked last night when he came so suddenly upon us.

"He had been listening outside for about twenty minutes. No wonder he sat there all of a shiver! The upshot of the matter is that the villain heard every word of our conversation and came for the money I left with you.—There, there! you promised you wouldn't talk any," and before the little woman could utter a word John had left the room, softly closing the door after him.—*Julia H. Thayer.*

FROM LIFE TO DEATH

is but a moment if rheumatism or neuralgia strikes the heart. These diseases are the most painful and the most dangerous of any to which human kind is liable. They fly from one part to another without a moment's warning, and liniments and other outward applications are in themselves dangerous because they are liable to drive the disease to some vital organ and cause instant death. Rheumatism and neuralgia are diseases of the blood, and can only be reached by a remedy which will drive from the blood the dangerous acids. Such a remedy is Athlophoros. It has been thoroughly tested and is a safe, sure cure.

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Your medicine has cured me of neuralgia. I suffered with it for three days, and it gave me instant relief. WM. F. KINCH.

Palmyra, N. Y., August 19th, 1886.

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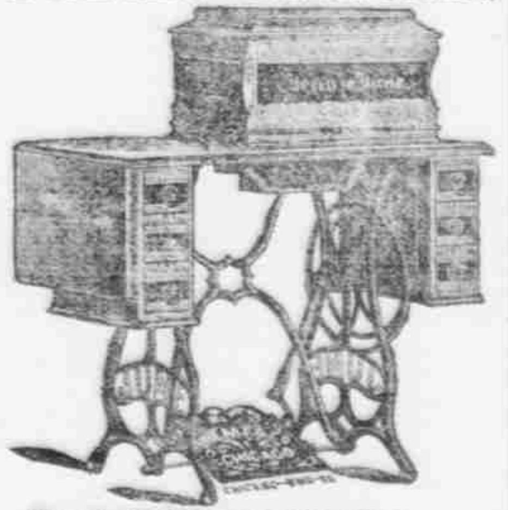

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WIT AND HUMOR.

—A man of principle—the banker.

—A joint canvas—that which covers a ham.

Forced politeness—Bowing to circumstances.

—There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the saucer.

—A shining example to indolent boys—the boot black.

—The old chaps who wore armor were the first mail carriers.

—Physic beats faith cure, because it has the inside track.

—A cry for quarter—that raised by the sleepin-carg porter.

—A recent comic song is entitled Soap—because it comes in bars.

—"Some men are born great" Yes, but gracious! how some of them do shrink.

—A restaurant keeper can make both ends meet by serving calf's head and ox-tail soup.

—An Indian idol has been discovered in the west. It is a petrified whisky bottle with the cork out.

—The Roman Empire declined and fell. In this respect it differs from man. If he declines, he won't fall.

—When Brown gets his salary he puts what he owes his land-lady to one side. He has christened it his board pile.

—It is in pocket-picking about the same as in every thing else. A man never succeeds until he gets his hand in.

—It is said that every dog has his day; but this cannot be so, for everyone knows there are more than 365 dogs in the world.

—A young lady in Illinois is named Sue Rose, but recently she got awfully mad because some one called her Sue for short.

—It is reported that Wiggins learned to be a prophet by guessing what his wife would say when he came home late at night.

—A New Yorker shot his wife, but the bullet hit nothing but her store hair. She had so much of it on that he couldn't tell which was switch.

—A Pittsburger has taken out a patent for a machine to crimp flour bags.—That's all right. Why shouldn't the flour bag wear crimps so long as the flour barrel has hoops.

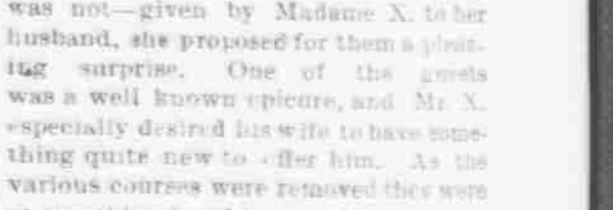
—"Ugh! it's cold this morning," said Sniggs to Higgs. "I saw ice on a sidewalk as I came down-town." "Indeed," said Higgs, "was it paid for?" Tableau."

—Mrs. Greene—"Timothy, what have you done with the letter that was lying on the bureau?" Timothy—"I put it in the letter-box, ma'm." Mrs. G.—"Oh! provoking! Didn't you see there was no address on the envelope?" Timothy—"Yes, ma'm; but I thought yer didn't want nobody to know who you was writin' to."

—Magistrate—"The young woman says that your continued staring at her annoyed her excessively." Prisoner—"I never intentionally annoyed a woman in my life, your honor." Magistrate—"Then why did you stare at her so persistently?" Prisoner—"Because she is pretty, and I couldn't help it." Young Woman—"Let him go, judge."

—At an informal supper—which might have taken place on April 1 but was not—given by Madame X. to her husband, she proposed for them a pleasing surprise. One of the guests was a well known epicure, and Mr. X. especially desired his wife to have something quite new to offer him. As the various courses were removed they were at length replaced by one dish, a magnificent silver cover, which the servant placed before the guest of honor. Lifting the top with a graceful air of appreciative expectancy, the bon vivant was greeted by a beautiful parrot which ruffled its feathers as it said pertly: "Have some?" It is quite needless to say that the tid-bit was declined, and the charming jest made Madame X. for a season socially famous.

ROBERT EVANS,



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